FBIS DAILY REPORT

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EMBASSY IN U.S. PROTESTS 13 AUG NUCLEAR TEST

LD211726 Moscow TASS in English 1828 GMT 21 Aug 87

["American Nuclear Explosion -- Soviet Embassy Protest" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow August 21 TASS -- The Soviet Embassy in Washington today lodged a statement with the U.S. Department of State in connection with the nuclear explosion staged in Nevada on August 13, 1987.

The statement drew most serious attention to the fact that the yield of blast exceeded, according to information of the USSR's national seismic control services, the threshold of 150 kilotons.

This was in gross violation of the Soviet-American agreement on limiting to this threshold the yield of underground nuclear explosions, as stipulated by the 1974 treaty on limiting underground nuclear weapon tests, and represented another attempt to complicate advancement towards the solution of the question of a total ban on nuclear weapon tests.

The statement emphasized that the American blast was preceded by a propaganda campaign designed to cast aspersions on the Soviet Union, to accuse it of violating the 1963 treaty banning nuclear weapon tests in the atmosphere, outer space and underwater following the underground nuclear test on Novaya Zemlya Island on August 2, 1987.

That was no coincidence. The apparent aim was to cover up the fact that the U.S. exceeded the threshold in detonating its own blast.

Thus, there are no grounds for believing that the point at issue was a miscalculation, as it often happened with American military equipment.

It is becoming obvious that everything was done on purpose.

The Soviet side expected, the statement said further, that the American side would produce necessary clarifications in connection with the exceeding of the agreed upon threshold and demanded that such violations be not repeated in the future.

It was also stressed that the USSR, as repeatedly announced, was prepared to spread the 1963 treaty banning nuclear weapon tests in the atmosphere, outer space and underwater to underground explosions, thus making it univer al.

Moreover, the Soviet invitation for the U.S. to start large-scale talks on a comprehensive ban on nuclear testing under strict international control was put on the negotiating table.

BOGACHEV ON U.S. 'OBSTRUCTIONIST' STAND ON CW

LD211652 Moscow TASS in English 1615 GMT 21 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 21 TASS -- By TASS military writer Vladimir Bogachev:

A comprehensive ban on chemical weapons has been discussed by various international forums and at negotiating tables for many decades.

Many dramatic developments accompanied the struggle over the status of chemical warfare agents. Some inspired the hearts of people with hopes that these weapons would be outlawed, others marred the prospects of reaching a corresponding agreement.

There have recently emerged real prospects for a successful completion of the talks on the total prohibition of warfare agents at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva.

By displaying bold approaches to the problems under discussion and discarding the outdated "logic" of the arms race, the Soviet side came out at the talks in favor of the earliest destruction of all stockpiles of chemical weapons and the elimination of the technical facilities which produce them.

The Soviet programme stipulates, in particular, that all sides should disclose the whereabouts of the enterprises engaged in the production of chemical weapons and elaborate procedures for eliminating the production base.

The USSR has announced the cessation of the production of chemical weapons and is building a special facility to destroy them. Participants in the Disarmament Conference were invited to visit the facility.

The large-scale initiatives of the socialist community at the Geneva conference removed a number of obstacles in the way of achieving a mutually acceptable agreement on chemical weapons.

Ways to resolve the most fundamental questions have been found and the text of many provisions of the would-be agreement has been agreed upon thanks to the efforts applied by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries in Geneva.

The recent Soviet initiatives concerning effective verification were of special significance. The Soviet side announced that it would proceed at the talks from the need for the legal endorsement of the principle of mandatory inspections on challenge without the right to refuse such inspections.

The Amercian side has for years rejected any agreement on chemcial disarmament under the pretext of the "difficulty of verification."

The head of the U.S. delegation to the talks once said that verification of agreements on chemical weapons was absolutely essential, but impossible, thus ruling out the possibility of U.S. joining the agreement.

Washington claimed later that the agreement was impossible due to the Soviet Union's refusal to allow on-site inspections.

The groundlessness of such insinuations has become obvious now.

The Soviet party to the talks seeks to dispel the other parties' mistrust and invite Western representatives to join an honest dialogue on questions of securing the interests of all nations.

The U.S., however, is far from always ready for such a dialogue and often tries to discard the principle of equality and equal security of the sides in handling problems of chemical disarmament.

As a result of the American side's obstructionist stand in Geneva, the forecasts by experts about the possibility of concluding an agreement on chemical weapons as early as in 1987 have been put in question.

The U.S. and its allies claim that the USSR has an overwhelming superiority in chemical weapons. Such assertions are lies as it is Washington which erects main obstacles in the way of the total destruction of chemical warfare agents and the elimination of their production base.

The facts are that Washington banks on chemical rearmament with the deployment of extremely dangerous binary munitions stuffed with nerve gas, rather than on chemical disarmament.

The U.S. Administration believes that chemical weapons most fully comply with the requirements of the Pentagon's overall strategy for preparing a war far from U.S. territory.

American strategists naively think that if U.S. chemical weapons are used in Europe or in the Far East, the United States will not become a target of a retaliatory chemical strike due to the tactical and technical properties of chemical warfare agents.

It seems that the Pentagon's illusory aspirations to achieve advantages in a chemical war are the chief factor that determines the obstructionist stand of the American delegation to the talks on chemical disarmament.

CURRENT GENEVA TALKS 'FAILED' DUE TO U.S. STANCE

LD202115 Moscow TASS in English 2043 GMT 21 Aug 87

[Text] Geneva August 20 TASS -- The work of the Geneva conference on disarmament has entered its final stage. Many delegations sum up in their reports the preliminary results of the work of this major forum on disarmament issues. Stanislaw Turbanski, head of the Polish delegation, drew attention in his speech to the initiatives of socialist countries which might lay a solid foundation for serious talks on the priority points of the agenda of the conference. The speaker singled out the latest Soviet proposal on preventing the arms race in outer space and banning chemical weapons.

The head of the German Democratic Republic's delegation, Ambassador Harold Rose, supported the proposal, put forward by the Soviet foreign minister, on setting up a special group of scientific experts to draft recommendations on the structure and functions of a system of verification of any possible agreement on non-testing nuclear weapons. He stressed that that initiative made it possible to start practical work at the conference on that important problem.

At the same time, most participants in the conference noted that because of the position of the USA and its closest allies talks at the conference's current session failed on such important issues as a ban on nuclear tests, termination of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament, prevention of a nuclear war and barring the arms race from outer space.

The speech by head of the U.S. delegation Max Friedersdorf provided further proof that the United States was not going at the future session of the conference to remove artificial barriers in the way of talks at this body covering major issues, including those on nuclear disarmament.

FOREIGN COMMUNIST COMMENTATORS VIEW GLASNOST

PM200921 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 August 1987 Second Edition carries on page 4 under the "World of the Eighties" rubric interviews with the editors of TRYBUNA LUDU, L'UNITA, UNSERE ZEIT, AKAHATA, and VOZ DA UNIDADE entitled "Communists and Democracy: Leaders of Fraternal Papers Answer PRAVDA's Questions."

An editorial introduction reads in full as follows:

"The process of restructuring begun in the Soviet Union is inextricably bound up with increasing glasnost and further democratization of the entire life of our society. We want more socialism, and for that reason more democracy. It is only natural that Soviet people proceed here from their own notions about social values, from the criteria of their own Soviet way of life.

"The transformations being carried out in our country are attracting rapt attention throughout the world.

"What lies behind this interest, and how are these changes being assessed in other countries? This was one of the questions the PRAVDA editorial office put to the leaders of communist newspapers in a number of countries.

"Another question which we asked them concerns the struggle for democracy by communists in those countries. After all, democracy -- true democracy as opposed to the formal kind -- is the ideal of communists regardless of the country in which they live and fight on behalf of the rights of working people and the broad masses of the people. However, it is obvious that the specific forms assumed by the struggle may vary depending on the actual conditions in which it is being waged. Given this, our respondents were chosen from a small number of countries which nevertheless represent not only different parts of the world but its different sociopolitical realities.

"The authors of the articles published note the paramount importance of democracy for the successful activity of communist parties. They also discuss the difficulty of ensuring true democratic freedoms in different specific conditions -- witness their daily practice. The reader will also pick out various nuances in the authors' views on the problem as a whole."

An article entitled "The Polish Experience" by Jerzy Majka, chief editor of (Warsaw) TRYBUNA LUDU, follows:

"The development of democracy and self-management are problems of general and international significance. They affect all countries. In discussing this topic, however, I want to refer to the Polish experience.

"We are engaged in a search for reserves capable of speeding up the country's development and exerting a considerable influence in improving working people's living conditions. Such reserves can be found in people themselves, in their labor, and in their production and social activeness. The development of democracy is a precondition for the development of working people's social activeness.

"The crisis events of 1980-81 were a lesson to us in Poland on this score.

"The notion of working people as coproprietors of the country and co-owners of the people's assets has, over the more than 40 years of building a socialist society in Poland (and I think this affects to an even greter degree the 7 decades of building socialism in the USSR), become a substantial element in social awareness. If people feel themselves to be coproprietors and co-owners, they have something to say and want their opinion to be considered. Nevertheless, for many years the development of the institution of socialist democracy lagged behind the development of the working class' and the working people's consciousness in general. Thus, contradictions which could have been overcome by democratic means developed into crisis and conflict in Poland. It follows from this that the development and improvement of socialist democracy is an objective necessity of the process of building a socialist society.

"In the bourgeois West it is said that the socialist renewal and reforms taking place in Poland (just as with restructuring in the USSR) are virtual capitulation to the West's demands for democratization and respect for human rights. This is a very crafty propaganda move. The revolutions that occurred in our countries overthrew the power of capital and eliminated the bourgeois form of parliamentary democracy. We do not intend to return to the past.

"We understand our socialist democracy to be rule by the people, where people must themselves resolve and participate in the resolution of their own vital problems. That is why we attach special significance to self-management at enterprises and at a neighborhood level, at those places, in short, where people spend the bulk of their lives. Acting on this premise, the PZPR, after evaluating the level of democracy's development, is now giving a new boost to its development.

"We do realize here, of course, that democracy does not ease the process of governing the state. It puts an additional load on the organs of state power and sometimes also on the party organizations. There are some people who have even formed the impression that we have already done quite enough in the sphere of developing democracy and that it is time to halt this process. Such feelings harbor great danger for the improvement of political relations in society. If we do not continue to develop democracy dynamically, our own conservatism could overwhelm us at some later time. The PZPR is resolutely combating such sentiments.

"Differences undoubtedly exist between the conditions in which we in Poland began the process of socialist renewal and those in which the CPSU in the Soviet Union concluded that restructuring and acceleration were essential. There can be no doubt, however, concerning their logical connection: an awareness of the fact that we are moving together toward a common goal, are expanding the basis for exchange of experience, and are helping to develop and improve socialist democracy."

The next article, entitled "Diverse Routes to Socialism," is by Gerardo Chiaromonte, political editor of the Italian Communist Party daily L'UNITA, and reads as follows:

"In his speech to the 20th Komsomol Congress, M.S. Gorbachev said that socialism cannot exist without democracy. I think that this is an extremely important statement.

"We Italian Communists have long insisted on the inextricable link between democracy and socialism. Speaking in Moscow at the celebrations marking the 60th anniversary of the Great October Revolution, Enrico Berlinguer stressed that democracy is a 'universal value.'

"As is well known, Palmiro Togliatti maintained that the Soviet 'model' could not be repeated in the conditions of Italy and West Europe. This also applies to the routes by which the working classes will come to power and to the type of society and political system built in the USSR. In recent years our ideological development has moved forward.

"We are well aware of the difference between 'formal freedoms' and 'real freedoms,' and consider that socialist society must provide all citizens with safeguards that the capitalist system is incapable of giving to all: a guarantee of work, housing, health care, and provision in old age. At the same time, socialism must bring with it the maximum expansion of political democracy and personal freedoms. However, since socialist society cannot be assumed a priori to be free of contradictions, it must for that reason create in the sphere of democracy, personal freedoms, and human rights a sound system of safeguards for all citizens expressing various interests and standpoints.

"This primarily concerns those countries and peoples that possess long traditions of democracy and political pluralism. But the question is a broader one and affects matters of principle.

"It is not, of course, a case of offering up to others one's own 'models,' which can, for example, arise out of the political traditions of certain Western countries (I am thinking of certain forms of parliamentarianism, diversity of parties and movements, and so forth). That would be to ignore the specific course of the history and the political and cultural characteristics of different countries in the world (chiefly those that have broken with the capitalist system or begun liberating themselves from colonial domination) and would lead to a Eurocentrist (that is to say, peculiar to Western Europe) vision of world history.

"It is obvious that democracy (real as opposed to formal) can assume and will assume various forms in each individual country in line with its specific political and cultural traditions.

"Our specific task is to ensure genuine, guaranteed equal rights for all citizens, the elimination of all privileges (including those unconnected with the existence of opposed social classes), the full enjoyment of personal rights, and the full development of creative inquiry. It is not a matter of making all this dependent on the manifestation of greater patience on the part of the socialist states' leading organs but of making this process effective by creating an organic system of safeguards. This is also absolutely required in order to maximize the participation of working people and all citizens in managing the economy and public affairs in general.

"Italian Communists are showing great interest in the development of the renewal course pursued by the present CPSU leadership and want to see its complete success. However, this is not because they think that Soviet society and its political system will thereby be able to serve as the 'model' from which progressive parties and movements in other countries should begin.

"The point is that there cannot be 'models' for imitation or 'models' designed to serve as points of departure. In every country and in every part of the world, parties and movements must find their own route of democratic advance toward creating socialism and building a new society.

The front made up by these forces is not limited to communist parties, and some of them are quite new. Relations among communist parties also can no longer be conceived and developed in the old way. Today we should be talking about political relations among equals, and every communist party bears prime responsibility to its own people and country. Moreover, truthfully speaking, the idea of world meetings of communist parties that is voiced from time to time does not seem feasible to us.

"But that being said, it is no less true that the success of the present CPSU leadership's line will be of great help to the struggle being waged by left-wing forces in Western Europe. The position of left-wing forces in Western Europe today cannot, of course, be described as outstanding. I think, however, that one can now say that we have reached the point where the major offensive of right-wing forces characteristic of past years and which has notched up quite a few successes is beginning to falter. Conditions are now ripe for an upsurge in left-wing forces, although they are faced with enoromous new problems of a highly intractable nature. I think that the CPSU's present policy can help bring about that upsurge. This primarily concerns the questions of disarmament and peace now being tackled (in which Soviet initiative is already showing itself so strongly), but it also owes something to the efforts directed toward democratizing and renewing Soviet society."

There follows an article entitled "Bringing the Truth About Restructuring to People" by George Polikeit, chief editor of the FRG communist newspaper UNSERE ZEIT. The author speaks about the great interest shown by FRG citizens in restructuring and the expansion of democracy in the USSR. He also dwells on the problems of countering the "manipulation" of news practiced by the bourgeois press. This is designed to discredit socialist states and, in particular, to make people "skeptical about the sincerity and duration of the Soviet state's moves toward consolidating socialist democracy."

An article entitled "Glasnost in the USSR and the Japanese" by Yosinori Yosioka, chief editor of the newspaper AKAHATA, says the Japanese media are providing extensive coverage of glasnost. Yosioka quotes the Japan Communist Party (JCP) leader's favorable assessment of glasnost's results to date, which is congruent with his own impressions based on recent trips to the USSR. He notes that the JCP has always felt it important to expose and eradicate mistakes. He comments on how actively the Soviet mass media are involved in restructuring, and also views the pressure put on workers in Japan: "Worker activists are particularly oppressed. JCP members or even readers of AKAHATA who work at enterprises owned by major private capital are isolated and sometimes even driven out."

The final article, entitled "Catalyst of United Action" by Noe Hertel, chief editor of the Brazilian party weekly VOZ DA UNIDADE, begins by saying that "imperialism is increasingly incompatible with democracy -- an institution that it sterilizes." He claims this process is particularly acute in "exploited" and dependent countries. He then briefly describes the features of the democratic struggle in Brazil, a country "now undergoing a process of democratic change" but where the "democratic system has not yet been consolidated." During this "transitional process," the Brazilian Communist Party, according to the author, sees the "creation of a genuinely democratic state via a constituent assembly as its main goal."

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD232144 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 23 Aug 87

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Dmitriy Antonovich Volskiy, member of the ZA RUBEZHOM editorial board, and Vadim Nikolayevich Nekrasov, international observer of KOMMUNIST, presented by Boris Andrianov, All-Union radio foreign political commentator]

[Text] [Andrianov] Hello, comrades. We begin our meeting at the roundtable. Taking part today are Dimitry Antonovich Volskiy, member of the editorial board of the weekly ZA RUBEZHOM and Vadim Nikolayevich Nekrasov, international observer of the journal KOMMUNIST. I see Dmitriy Antonovich wishes to speak first. Over to you, Dmitriy.

[Volskiy] I think we ought to begin today's broadcast, like the last roundtable meeting, with what is presently the hottest region: the Persian Gulf. It's more than a month now since the Security Council adopted a resolution demanding an end to the Iran-Iraq war. Iraq has expressed agreement with that resolution; Iran has taken a more complex attitude but hasn't officially rejected the resolution, and it has expressed willingness to cooperate with the UN secretary general.

But what about Washington, on whom quite a lot depends regarding the situation in the Gulf? As you know, the United States voted for the Security Council resolution and even made an effort in helping to draft it. That's one side of it. But on the other hand, the United States is in effect promoting the spread of the Iran-Iraq war and is helping to turn it into a conflict on a wider scale. There are already concentrated in the Gulf almost more ships and aircraft -- and near the Gulf, too -- ships and aircraft of the United States and its allies, Britain and France, than not only Iraq but also Iran could muster for any battle. In addition, the U.S. intervention forces include paratroops whose very presence looks, I should say, like a provocation. Yet U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger says he himself doesn't even know when the level may be reached at which it will be desirable, in his opinion, to stop the buildup of U.S. Armed Forces in the region.

Well, why are they doing all this? At this point the obfuscation begins. To protect the freedom of shipping in the Gulf, they say, though it's clear that the more naval vessels are concentrated there, the more dangerous it is for civilian ships to pass through. Or it is asserted that Washington wants to warn Iran against any possible anti-U.S. actions. But experience shows that in tense situations of this kind, intimidation can have the opposite effect; the more so if you bear in mind the mood of, say, the Iranian kamikaze suicide squads stationed close to the Gulf, and of the Islamic Iranian Revolutionary Guards in general, who may not even always be under the control of the Iranian military authorities. Finally, as in former years, they appeal to the desire of the United States to oppose the Soviet Union in the Gulf, where they say it has had a lot of success recently. This is something about which the U.S. press is writing a great deal at the moment. That same U.S. press admits, however, that this success, by which is meant the development of contacts with the countries situated in the Gulf zone, has been achieved not by military but by political and diplomatic means. As for the Soviet naval vessels that are now also present in the Gulf -- well, first, they are far fewer in number than the U.S. forces; second, these are vessels of a different kind: They have no offensive functions and are mainly minesweepers.

[Andrianov] Let me remind you in this connection that as long ago as 3 July, the Soviet Union proposed that warships of all states not belonging to the region should leave the Gulf; and that it now considers it very important to create an international climate favorable to implementing the UN resolutions.

[Volskiy] Well, that is just what has not yet met with any positive response from the Western powers, especially the United States. This is though you might think that it is they of all people -- and Japan, which with the West European countries is the main consumer of Gulf oil -- who should be more interested more any other countries in a calm situation in the region. After all, the price of oil has already risen; anything could happen. So the confused explanations regarding the U.S. military preparations that the White House is now giving don't impress anyone very much. From the practical actions of the United States, quite different motives can be deduced than from those that are spoken aloud. Well, for example, the Pentagon is in a hurry to secure permanent bases on the shores of the Persian Gulf in certain countries. It is in a hurry to push through Congress permission to supply the latest weapons to Saudi Arabia, which would in some way legalize a U.S. military presence in that country.

But that's not all. Fred Holliday, a London professor and a Gulf specialist, has recently argued as follows: One cannot shake off the impression, he said, that, as with the attack on Libya, there may be some concealed agenda. This may envisage -- I'm citing the professor -- creating a situation in which the United States could attempt, as he writes, to settle its score with Khomeyni.

[Andrianov] The British professor was referring to the U.S. bombing of Libya in April 1986. But that was 16 months ago, and Washington still hasn't managed to settle its score with Libya. Experience proves that state terrorism doesn't achieve results.

[Volskiy] Well, Boris Vasiliyevich, while we're on the subject of Libya, it's impossible not to remember Chad. You know, comrades, that there's a territorial conflict between these two countries over the Aozou oasis in a montainous desert region. A while ago the forces of the Habre regime took control of this small town, and in retaliation the Libyan Air Force began bombing the Chadian forces and Libya has now been attempting to retake Aozou.

It is noticeable is that, while the OAU is insisting that the dispute be settled peacefully, the United States and France -- though the latter is taking a more restrained line in theory -- in practice are inciting Habre to adopt a military solution. Here the idea seems to be, in part, to apply pressure from the south in an attempt to undermine the anti-imperialist regime in Libya, by way of continuing what they failed to do just over a year ago with the U.S. air strike from the north. It doesn't seem to be just a coincidence that they have chosen a time when the attention of the Arab and Muslim world, and indeed, international attention of the Arab and Muslim world, and indeed, international attention in general, has been distracted by events in the Gulf. Here it's appropriate to remind you that, at the same time as all this, the U.S. "Bright Star" maneuvers are being held in Egypt. These are routine maneuvers, but all the same, in present conditions they are of a kind to make one especially wary: first because they are being carried out near the border with Libya, and second, because, as the U.S. press writes, in case of need, it wouldn't be very difficult to rapidly transfer them straight from Egypt to the Gulf.

What we see from these examples is how one regional conflict can draw another behind it, as it were, setting up a kind of chain reaction, which shows very clearly just how dangerous such regional conflicts can be.

[Andrianov] Well, that is also one further proof, if it were needed, of something else: of the fact that it is now particularly important to take measures to unblock, and then settle, regional conflicts. This is more so since in today's situation any one of these could burst out of the confines of the region in question.

[Volskiy] It look as if this is beginning to be recognized in many different regions. You mentioned the OAU. But even a regional organization such as ASEAN, traditionally subject to strong pressure from the United States and Japan, even that organization is beginning to adopt -- at least the majority of its members are -- a more constructive approach than formerly to settling the situation surrounding Cambodia, as proposed by the countries of Indochina. Here a light is beginning to glimmer at the end of the tunnel, just as in Central America, where the presidents of five of its states have drawn up and signed an appropriate agreement on normalizing the situation. Their foreign ministers are now engaged in working out the details so that it can be implemented.

In Sri Lanka a treaty to settle the conflict between the Singhalese and the Tamils, with guarantees not only by the Government of Sri Lanka, but also by that of India, has not only been drawn up and signed but has begun to be applied in practice. Just when that agreement began to be implemented two events occurred that one can only describe as tragic and alarming: the attempts on the lives, first of the Indian prime minister, who had signed the treaty, and then on the president of Sri Lanka itself.

[Andrianov] But then, Dimitriy Antonovich, what that indicates, after all, is precisely that one can't allow efforts to resolve conflicts to be prolonged indefinitely. We have to bear in mind that in many regions emotions run very high.

[Volskiy] It does indeed seem to be the case that the longer a conflict drags on, the more deep-rooted it becomes and the greater is the resistance to settling it. We've seem how conflicts can develop into a chain reaction, how they spread, and how other countries become involved. In these circumstances, the U.S. policy of interfering in regional conflicts, which is particularly noticeable at the moment maybe in the Gulf, appears to run absolutely counter to the task of normalizing the situation in various parts of the world. This is especially since it's not only in the Gulf that Washington can be seen to oppose the settlement of conflicts. It has reacted negatively to the policy of national reconciliation in Afghanistan, and now to the initiative of the five Central American countries. Why? Because in each of these conflicts the United States is determined to gain at all costs some unilateral advantage for itself, in its own favor as it sees it.

But what makes our era different from previous ages is the very fact that a genuine advantage can only be an advantage for all. In the nuclear space age, when we're all in the same boat, if you try to sink anyone you risk capsizing the whole boat. This is true both on the regional and on the global scale, and thus resolving conflicts can only be based on considering reality and respecting the interests of all who in one way or another are affected by a particular situation.

But then Washington believes differently. There, for example, the so-called Shultz doctrine is now looming large, as THE WASHINGTON POST reported on 19 August. What it amounts to, according to the newspaper, is that regional conflicts are linked to the Soviet-U.S. treaty on eliminating medium-range missiles that is in preparation. The way the doctrine is being expounded is pretty obscure, but as a simplification one can state that it is something like this: According to the Shultz doctrine the Soviet Union must cease to support its friends in the developing world and go along with the imposition of U.S. conditions in settling regional conflicts. Then, the story goes, the United States will take a more compliant line on medium-range missiles and other problems in curbing the arms race. But it's not for nothing the THE WASHINGTON POST describes this doctrine as very debatable from the diplomatic viewpoint. That's putting it mildly, since after all it's not just the Soviet Union, but the whole world including the United States, that has an interest in an agreement on missiles and in solving the other problems of disarmament.

[Nekrasov] I think one ought to remark that in the West this is the holiday season for politicians. The parliaments are in summer recess, and thus in those official circles in the West attention to the problems of arms reduction and particularly eliminating medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles has recently waned. Correspondingly, the Western press has also been paying less attention to these topics. But there's one exception, and that is West Germany. On the banks of the Rhine a very lively political debate of these matters is continuing. This is despite the fact that the main protagonists of the debate have also deserted Bonn and gone to their summer residences. This is not stopping them from granting interviews from there, issuing statements and so forth. The issue, as you realize, is what is to become of the Pershing-1A missiles and the warheads for them, which I'm sure listeners already know about, since quite a lot has been written about this issue in our press.

At the time when the West German capital was discussing the issue of its attitude toward the possibility of a Soviet-U.S. agreement on what the West calls intermediate-range missiles, right-wing circles on the Rhine put forward the condition tht the 72 Pershing-1A missiles directed against the Soviet Union be retained. In their time these missiles had been formally handed over to the Bonn ally by the U.S. authorities. Now, as a result of Bonn's official stance, the missiles are the main and, one might even say, the last obstacle in the way of formulating in treaty form a Soviet-U.S. agreement on eliminating a whole class of nuclear missiles.

[Andrianov] One might say, Vadim Nikolayevich, that a situation has come about in which the fate of a Soviet-U.S. accord finds itself, at least formally, in a position of dependence on the stance chosen by Bonn. If the West German capital does not wish to give up its aspirations there may not be an agreement. You will agree that the formulation of the issue by no means corresponds to the genuine character of relations between the members of the North Atlantic bloc.

[Nekrasov] No, of course it doesn't. You rightly observed that this dependence is formal. Well, this is indeed a characteristic featue of the relationships that have been established within the Western military alliance, that is, equality in words and in form, but in actuality relations of subordination.

In this connection, I would like to note the following point: In West Germany, as we are aware, there are in existence and actively operating reactionary revanchist circles that favor only tension in the continent. However, they are of course unable to count on independent success. It is another matter if they receive support from across the ocean, and indeed it should be said that recently they have received such support. Just consider this. First Alfred Dregger, a representative of the right wing of West German politicians, had a meeting with Frank Carlucci, the President's assistant, who assured him that Washington does not intend to apply any pressure on Bonn over this issue. Then Secretary of State Shultz in a mesage to West German Foreign Minister Genscher stressed that Washington does not intend to discuss with the Soviet Union the issue of the Pershing-1A missiles. Finally, Richard Burt, the U.S. ambassador in Bonn, warned outright in a public speech against West Germany giving up these missiles since, according to him, such a concession on Bonn's part will, he says, undermine the U.S. position at the Geneva negotiations.

[Andrianov] Consequently, it is a matter of consistent efforts directed with Bonn's help at putting pressure on the Soviet Union and forcing it to make further concessions, or maybe even at wrecking a Soviet-U.S. accord. How then do you assess these actions by Washington?

[Nekrasov] Well, certainly there is in this an element of the diplomatic game which accompanies all serious international negotiations.

They contain various countermoves, the creation of fall-back positions and so forth. But all these facts also indicate the complexity of the situation in the United States itself. Judging by a number of signs there is a continuing sharp, behind-the-scenes struggle there over the main issue of whether to conclude with the Soviet Union the first agreement in history on a real reduction of armaments and on eliminating a whole class of nuclear armaments. There is no doubt that people there are very well aware that the very fact of such an agreement would substantially alter the atmosphere in relations between the two superpowers, strengthen trust between them, and provide an impetus for further fruitful negotiations. This is why there is mounting resistance to a possible Soviet-U..S. accord on the part of the military-industrial complex and U.S. reactionary political circles.

Well, Dmitriy Antonovich spoke in this regard of the Shultz plan in particular. I myself should like to add a quotation from the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR. This newspaper wrote a few days ago that within the White House, a still powerful group is set against any accord with Moscow and is prepared by all means to sabotage an imminent agreement on medium-range missiles.

[Andrianov] Well, if one considers the situation in the FRG on the basis of its own interests and the interrelationship there of political forces, what then are the prospects for resolving the Pershing-1A missile issue.

[Nekrasov] Well, you see, one needs to take account of a very important factor. Bonn's refusal to support what is called the double zero option solution would mean that the West German capital is assuming the very grave responsibility for wrecking an agreement which the world public is so expecting and which, as everyone is aware, would be a most important positive factor for further world development. This is of course also realized by responsible right-wing politicians in the Federal Republic. The Christian Social Union, of course, under Strauss' leadership may now be accusing the Social Democratic Party of advocating elimination of the Pershings and thereby damaging the FRG's fundamental interests, they claim, and even allegedly of the whole Western alliance, as well as accusing the Social Democrats of allegedly fully siding with Moscow. However, here is what the West German HANNOVERSCHE ALLGEMEINE wrote in this regard. From the moment that the double zero proposal was put forward, the newspaper says, it was clear to all leading figures in the Bonn Cabinet that ultimately these missiles will have to be given up. The newspaper warns that the longer Bonn keeps silent, the more difficult this will be to do.

[Andrianov] During our discussion we have touched upon several international problems, which certainly at present occupy a priority position in the press and other mass information media. Naturally, paramount attention is paid to events linked with these problems. They are the subject of a substantial proportion of the reports in the extensive stream of news from abroad.

It seems to me that amid this avalanche of news one cable from Tokyo has remained unnoticed and has slipped past the gaze of the broad public circles. To my mind, however, the information it contained was by no means of an ordinary character. The information arrived at the beginning of this week. What was it about then? It concerned the fact that due to an understanding with the Pentagon, the Japanese National Defense Agency has begun to prepare for stationing in Japanese territory heavy armaments and equipment for U.S. land forces and Marines. U.S. troops will be able to make use of them immediately after being airlifted to the Japanese archipelago in the event of a so-called emergency situation. It is no secret that the latter term means military actions.

[Nekrasov] I think what one should remember here is that heavy armaments for U.S. troops are already stationed in the territory of West European NATO countries. It is evident that the Pentagon now intends to extend this practice to its Far Eastern ally. Incidentally, the U.S. military has already tried out this option for the rapid deployment of its forces on Japanese territory. It did so last fall. If you recall, wide-scale Japanese-U.S. exercises were held at that time on Hokkaido, the northernmost island of the Japanese Archipelago. Large U.S. units of troops were airlifted there without any heavy gear, and at specially equipped depots heavy combat equipment, transport facilities, and various types of equipment were already awaiting them.

[Andrianov] You mentioned the version involving rapid deployment of forces. You know, this thought has suddenly occurred to me now, by association: The United States has set up a special contingent of Rapid Deployment Forces. All manner of military arsenals are being equipped primarily for their use on foreign territory. But it is well known that these Rapid Deployment Forces are intended for use in so-called hot spots on our planet. Incidentally, subunits included in these forces are stationed on the island of Okinawa -- that's in the south of the Japanese Archipelago. But now, as we can see, the Pentagon is including even the most northerly island in Japan, Hokkaido, in the Rapid Deployment Force's zone of possible operations. Can this be linked to the fact that strategists across the ocean are intending to regard the Far East region as a kind of potential hot spot?

[Volskiy] That's a natural question, of course, especially as remarks by U.S. officials themselves on this point are well known; and they testify that in the event of a military conflict in Europe, the Armed Forces of the United States and its allies plan to open a second front in the Far East, too. Even officially, this area is called the second theater of military operations in its importance after the European one -- a potential theater, of course. It's important to note this here. Of course, a significant role in these aggressive plans is allotted to Japan's so-called self-defense forces. But now already I think that this title, self-defense, is patently inappropriate. It's better simply to call them the Japanese Armed Forces, without using any other definition.

[Andrianov] In this regard, I would say in confirmation of that judgment, it is appropriate to recall the secret computer maneuvers held about 2 months ago in the U.S. town of Portsmouth. Top leaders of the naval forces of the United States and Japan took part in them. According to the testimony of the Japanese press, these exercises were arranged with the aim of testing possible tactics for operations by the Armed Forces of the United States and Japan in the first stages of a war against the Soviet Union in the event of military operations commencing in West Europe. As the YOMIURI newspaper wrote at the time, one of the most important goals of the present U.S. strategy in the event of war consists of inflicting warning strikes both in Europe and in regions of the Far East close to Soviet shores. On what basis? In order, having begun military operations in the Far East, first, to weaken the numerical advantage which the Soviet Union has in Europe, in the words of YOMIURI; and second, the newspaper also points out, to inflict a rapid blow on Soviet submarines carrying nuclear missiles, in order to discourage the Soviet Union from resorting to a nuclear attack.

[Nekrasov] Here, in my opinion, we ought to take another important factor into account. Its essence lies in the fact that the command of the Japanese Self-Defense Force was participating for the first time in such computer maneuvres held by the U.S. naval forces. We have every reason to consider that fact the start of a new stage in the development of U.S.-Japanese military cooperation. And that is what it means: The command of Japan's Armed Forces is henceforth becoming a direct coparticipant in the adventuristic warning-strike strategy, dangerous for all mankind, with which the Pentagon's irresponsible leaders are busying themselves.

[Andrianov] The result is that now we are not talking at all about cooperation by the armed forces of the two countries in defending Japan, as was previously claimed in official statements. We are dealing with collaboration by the two armies in preparation to inflicting a preventive strike on the Soviet Union in the event of a military conflict at the other end of the globe, in Europe.

[Volskiy] This is what I think merits attention. The involvement of the Japanese Self-Defense Force in those dangerous games being performed by the Pentagon casts doubt on, quite apart from anything else, the ability of the Japanese Government to decide independently on the fate of the country in crisis situations linked, in particular, to the development of events in the world's hot spots. The tragic consequences of such a policy are perfectly clear. For this reason, one can only be amazed at what I would call, perhaps, the thoughtlessness being shown by the ruling circles in Japan.

[Andrianov] We must assume that the propaganda campaign hostile to the Soviet Union which is going on in Japan can hardly be dictated by commonsense, either. There they are increasingly stirring up an atmosphere of distrust and suspicion with regard to our country. Surely official Tokyo realizes that such an approach is capable merely of complicating relations between the Soviet Union and Japan, which are not straightforward, anyway? This is something for the Japanese side to think about, and to think about seriously from a position of new thinking, as is demanded by our times, in the period of the search for a solution of global problems in the interests of peace and security for mankind.

On this point we conclude our meeting at the roundtable. All its participants thank you, comrade radio listeners, for your attention. Goodbye, and all the best to you.

IZVESTIYA ON 20 AUG GERASIMOV PRESS BRIEFING

PM211915 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Aug 87 Morning Edition p 4

[A. Kuvshinnikov report: "The Terms Are Not Being Fulfilled; From Our Correspondent at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] One of the features of a report on a previous briefing published under the headline "It Is Better To Cooperate" requires clarification. G. Gerasimov drew attention to an inaccuracy in the quoting of his words. What was meant was that it is for the American people themselves to decide what kind of President they will have. We acknowledge their choice although, as follows from press reports, fewer than half of Americans entitled to vote will vote for the victorious candidate. That is what transpires from the fact that a substantial proportion of voters prefer not to take part in the elections. [passage omitted]

GERASIMOV LINKS DISARMAMENT, DEVELOPMENT AID

LD211329 Moscow Service in Russian 1030 GMT 21 Aug 87

[Text] [Announcer] How can developing countries be helped to rid themselves of poverty and backwardness? The Soviet Union and many other states are convinced that disarmament is the only realistic option for implementing effective aid. There will be discussion about all of this at a conference which will soon be opening in New York. Gerasimov, chief of a directorate at the USSR Foreign Ministry, discusses this:

[Begin Gerasimov recording] An international conference opens in New York on 24 August on the correlation between disarmament and development, a large international forum with the participation of practically all states. The only country which has declined to participate in the conference is the United States which, according to its statement, does not see a functional connection between disarmament and development. We, however, do see one. We are firmly convinced that an organic tie exists between disarmament and development.

Only disarmament can liberate enormous additional resources for solving the global problems confronting mankind and for struggling against backwardness and poverty.

The Soviet Union is ready to give a part of the resources to developing countries which are released as a result of [vysvobozhdayushchikhsa ot] real disarmament.

At this conference in New York the Soviet delegation will set out our ideas on disarmament and development and our thinking on the principles and the mechanism of assistance to developing countries as a result of disarmament.

A number of new elements will be put forward in the development of our position as well. [end recording]

AGREEMENTS WITH JAPAN, DENMARK RATIFIED 17 AUG

LD181325 Moscow TASS in English 1314 GMT 18 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 18 TASS -- The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet (Parliament) of the USSR on August 17 ratified the Soviet-Japanese intergovernmental agreement on cultural relations, signed on May 31, 1986, in Moscow, and the Soviet-Danish intergovernmental agreement on avoiding the double taxation of incomes and property, signed on October 21, 1986, in Moscow.

U.S. PLAN FOR GULF LANDING OPERATIONS VIEWED

LD211450 Moscow TASS in English 1353 GMT 21 Aug 87

["USA -- Course of Whipping Up Military Tension" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow August 21 TASS -- TASS diplomatic correspondent writes:

The Pentagon is discussing the question of forming a special command that will busy itself with the expansion of the American military presence in the Persian Gulf. The conclusion prompts itself that the United States intends to entrench itself in the Gulf in earnest and for long and, moreover, to act there militarily with vigour and in a big way.

Washington is deploying a naval force of unprecedented size in the Gulf. Contary to what the Americans say, the bulk of this force is intended not for defencive but for landing operations. Washington is also creating a special command for this force. The administration is consciously pursuing a course of preserving tension and artificially whipping up the already intense apprehensions of the Arab Gulf states about the possibility of an expansion of the framework of the Iran-Iraq war.

The White House evidently needs this approach to create conditions for legalising its Armed Forces in the Gulf and also imposing American "military services" on the countries of the region. Here the Pentagon strategists are making the accent on getting access to sea ports and air fields and finding a possibility of locating CENTCOM's forward based headquarters in one of the Persian Gulf states.

As it is noted in diplomatic circles in Moscow, Washington apparently is counting on using the present conditions in this explosive area of the world to make the Arab states consent to close military cooperation with the United States under the pretext of safeguarding their security and defence. A fulfilment of such plans will only lead to a further growth of tension in the region.

U.S. SENATE DELEGATION CONTINUES VISIT

Dobrynin, Cranston on Missiles

LD201455 Moscow TASS in English 1450 GMT 20 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 20 TASS -- Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Anatoliy Dobrynin has received Alan Cranston, deputy Democratic majority leader in the U.S. Senate, at the latter's request.

In a talk, marked by a goodwill spirit, the sides focused their attention on a wide range of international and bilateral issues, crucial for improving the situation in the world and normalising Soviet-American relations. The agreement on eliminating Soviet and American medium- and shorter-range missiles would have been a major step towards that goal. In that connection mutual concern was expressed over the FRG's striving to preserve on its territory Pershing-1A missiles with American nuclear warheads.

Note was taken of the growing role of parliamentary ties in improving the relations between the two countries in a search for ways to eliminate the danger of a nuclear war.

Anatoliy Dobrynin and Alan Cranston agreed that it was important not to lose the real opportunities that are opening now for a turn in international relations in the interests of creating a safer and more stable peace.

Senator Alan Cranston stated that the USA showed great interest in ongoing perestroyka in the USSR, in the philosophy of new thinking in international politics and in Mikhail Gorbachev's innovative activities.

IZVESTIYA on News Conference

PM211145 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Aug 87 Morning Edition p 4

[A. Kuvshinnikov report: "Difficult But Useful Dialogue" under rubric "From Our Correspondent at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center"]

[Text] The positions of the USSR and the United States are a considerable distance apart in many political spheres. To try to reduce this distance, we must first clarify the essence of the U.S. view of various international problems. The news conference given by members of the U.S. Senate delegation in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet primarily serves this aim.

Anticipating journalists' questions, D. Moynihan, head of the delegation, emphasized that he is satisfied with the full conversations he has had in Moscow in which the sides discussed international aspects of the USSR's economic restructuring policy and many foreign policy problems. The Soviet representatives, Moynihan stressed, have shown a willingness to discuss any subject, including topics considered sensitive by one or both sides.

The attitudes of this group of highly representative senators merit more detailed attention. The first issue is their attitude towards the 72 U.S. warheads for the West German Pershing-1A operational and tactical missiles. Senator Moynihan made it perfectly clear that the United States does not intend to discuss the question of these warheads at talks on the "global double-zero option." That is, it considers the formula whereby the United States would retain the above 72 warheads if the Soviet Union completely eliminates its operational and tactical missiles to be fair. From its standpoint, the equation "0 equals 72" at least makes political sense if not mathematical sense.

A correspondent from a Czechoslovak news agency asked about the possibility of USSR-U.S. joint action to settle regional conflicts.

There is an understanding on the whole, Senator P. Sarbanes replied, that it would be expedient to pool our efforts to prevent any further increase in tension. But at present, Senator T. Sanford added, we are still very wary of one another. What is more, it must be taken into account that in certain instances the two sides' interests may diverge considerably, which makes cooperation more difficult.

The stand taken by this group of senators regarding the complex of Central American problems can serve as an example of this divergence. Having stated his full support for the final document of the recent Guatemala conference between the presidents of five Central American countries, Senator Moynihan immediately accused Nicaragua of having a "Leninist government" in power "which, by this fact alone, cannot be legally elected" and demanded that Soviet interests in that region of the world be limited.

There was one subject, however, that the senators completely refused to discuss. During its stay in the USSR, the delegation once again whipped up espionage hysteria concerning the new U.S. Embassy complex in Moscow. But the U.S. side was quite unable to produce a single piece of material evidence to confirm these claims. On the other hand, the convincing display of intelligence equipment with which Soviet establishments in the United States were crammed is still fresh in our memories. Is this what lies behind all the fuss, which has gone as far as threats to demolish the new U.S. Embassy? "I do not want to make life difficult for you by answering that question," D. Moynihan said with an impenetrable look. "It is better that our governments deal with this issue."

Summing up the results of the news conference, Senator Sarbanes noted that, despite the differences in the two sides' approaches that had been apparent during the talks in Moscow, the fact of the dialogue and the exchange of opinions were useful in themselves. This is because they reflect the desire to clearly establish the other side's views, without which it is impossible to even attempt to bring their positions closer. While agreeing with this assessment, it should still be borne in mind that any rapprochement and willingness to compromise must be mutual.

Visit Concludes 23 Aug

LD231256 Moscow TASS in English 1133 GMT 23 Aug 87

[Text] Leningrad August 23 TASS -- The U.S. Senate delegation (three Democrats and one Republican) have completed their official visit to the Soviet Union today. The trip was made at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Following meetings in Moscow, the guests spent two days in Leningrad.

The leader of the U.S. delegation, Daniel Moynihan, in a reply speech at an official dinner given by the city authorities in honour of the delegation said that "During World War Two our two countries were allies. We are aware that we can be allies in peace time as well." He also pointed out that the interests of the common cause presupposed greater frankness and openness between the two countries. The senator is of the opinion that the U.S. Senate delegation's visit, just as a Soviet parliamentary delegation's reply visit to the USA, should promote the attainment of this goal.

U.S. ACCEPTANCE OF BALTIC REPUBLICAN ENVOYS SCORED

LD211410 Moscow TASS in English 1236 GMT 21 Aug 87

[Text] Washington August 21 TASS -- Correspondent Oleg Polyakovskiy writes:

Officials in Washington simply refuse to accept the fact that way back in 1940 the three Baltic republics of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia had voluntarily joined the Soviet Union.

However improbably but it is a fact that the list of foreign embassies published by the U.S. Government includes to this day "missions" of the long defunct bourgeois governments of Latvia and Lithuania. "First secretary of the Mission of Latvia" (one of its four staff members) John Lucis readily told me that the State Department recognises these "diplomats" as lawful representatives of Latvia. But he did fail in his attempts to give me a coherent answer to the question who they were representing. "We are not representing the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic", Lucis said.

"But no other Latvia exists", I reminded him.

"Maybe you represent emigre organisations?" -- I asked.

"No, but we maintain contacts with them", was the answer.

John Lucis refused to tell me who finances the activity of the "Latvian Mission".

The elderly Stasis Bachkis who is the "charge d'affaires ad interim of Lithuania in the United States" was less tight-lipped. He told me that "we represent the last lawful government of Lithuania and we are recognised by the United States in this capacity. We maintain lively contacts with the 'Committee for the Liberation of Lithuania' and other organisations of emigre Lithuanians. The activity of the representatives of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia in the United States is financed out of our government's assets which were frozen in the United States in 1940. We submit a request to the American Government every year and it provides us with money from these assets".

"How much?"

"This is a secret", Bachkis replied. He told me that besides the "Lithuanian Mission" with a staff of only three "diplomats" there are in the United States also "Lithuanian consul generals" in New York, Los Angeles and Chicago.

While there are only four "diplomats" in the "Latvian Mission" and three in the "Lithuanian Mission" not a single person has been found in the whole of Washington by the Department of State who could "represent" the long deceased bourgeois Government of Estonia. Bachkis told me that there was only a "consul general of Estonia" in New York.

The representatives of the non-existent governments live on money that was unlawfully seized by Washington in its time and which it now gives them to conduct anti-Soviet propaganda.

ACTION WITH CANADIAN AUTHORITIES SEIZES HASHISH

LD211626 Moscow TASS in English 1354 GMT 21 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 21 TASS -- Five tons of hashish with a total value of about 120 million dollars were seized as a result of joint coordinated actions by Soviet customs and competent Canadian bodies. The operation to stop a big consignment of drugs that was being smuggled from Pakistan to Canada across the territory of the Soviet Union was completed with success.

Six members of the Mafia engaged in the underground narcobusiness found themselves in the dock in Canada. This successful operation patently confirms the effectiveness of pooling the efforts of members of the international community in the struggle against drugs.

PRC NATIONALITIES DELEGATION VISITS BELORUSSIA

LD211617 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1508 GMT 21 Aug 87

[Text] Minsk, 21 Aug TASS -- "We are pleased by the fact that through the joint efforts of our countries, relations between the PRC and the Soviet Union have today noticeably improved," said Yu Wen, member of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and deputy chairman of the Nationalities Committee, in an interview with a TASS correspondent. He is heading a delegation which is visiting the capital of Soviet Belorussia at the invitation of the commissions of the chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet. They are here to study Soviet experience in developing the economy and culture in national regions.

During the visit, the Chinese guests visited the "Khatyn" memorial complex, erected in memory of those lost when the fascists burned 628 Belorussian villages during World War II. The delegation leaves today for Tbilisi, the capital of Soviet Georgia.

Visits Georgian SSR

OW230026 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1200 GMT 22 Aug 87

[From "News Program"]

[Text] Invited by the USSR Supreme Soviet to visit this country to promote Soviet-Chinese parliamentary ties and to study Soviet experience in implementing policy toward nationalities, an NPC delegation has arrived in the Georgian SSR. The delegation had already been to Leningrad, the Latvian SSR, and the Belorussian SSR. In the Georgian SSR's capital Tblisi, SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Chairman Gilashvili received the NPC delegation. He briefed his guests on the work of the soviet, the republic's socioeconomic achievements, and its experience in popularizing education of internationalism. Yu Wen, head of the NPC delegation and member of the NPC Standing Committee, pointed out that the experience of the Georgian SSR in solving nationality issues has great significance for China. Yu Wen said: The Georgian SSR, due to the implementation of Lenin's policy, has transformed itself from a backwater in the tsarist period into a highly advanced socialist industrial and agricultural area.

PRAVDA REPORTS U.S.-PRC TRADE, INVESTMENT SEMINAR

PM240855 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Aug 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Sino-U.S. Seminar"]

[Text] Beijing, 20 Aug -- A Sino-U.S. seminar on legal aspects of bilateral trade and investment has ended here. XINHUA reports that the sides "strengthened mutual understanding" in the sphere of economic, trade, and technical exchange. During the seminar the Chinese side opposed the U.S. erection of artificial barriers in the way of mutually advantageous trade and criticized the policy of discriminatory restrictions on the transfer of modern technology to China. At a meeting with U.S. Attorney General E. Meese, who came to Beijing to participate in the seminar, Zhao Ziyang, premier of the PRC State Council, urged the U.S. Administration to "exert joint efforts to develop economic and trade relations between the two countries." While concurring with the opinion that it is necessary to oppose protectionism, at the same time Meese declared that "the United States will continue to monitor the transfer of equipment and technology."

'HOSTILE' JAPANESE ACTIONS 'DAMAGING' RELATIONS

LD211704 Moscow TASS in English 1425 GMT 21 Aug 87

["Who's Pouring Cold Water?" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow August 21 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Askold Biryukov writes:

Japanese Naval Attache Nobuhiro Takeshima and the deputy chief of the trading firm Mitsubishi Shioji's Moscow office, Takao Otani, have been expelled from Moscow for wrongful activities incompatible with their status.

Concrete explanations about those activities were given at a news conference at the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

A strong protest was declared in this connection to Japan's embassy in Moscow. A representation was simultaneously made to it over a shrill propaganda campaign hostile to the Soviet Union, which is continuing in Japan and complicating the already not simple relationship between the two countries.

In Tokyo they awkwardly attempted to feign surprise at the measures taken in the USSR against the Japanese nationals and denied the facts cited in Moscow, though they did not offer any proof to make the denial plausible.

Speaking in the upper parliamentary chamber, Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone claimed that the Soviet side through its decision "has poured cold water on friendly bilateral relations."

Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranari, for his part, demanded the departure of a deputy Soviet trade representative from Japan, asserting that it was "not an act of retaliation" but "a natural step in keeping with the Japanese law."

In the Soviet Union this step, far from being seen as anything "natural," is regarded as an action intended to escalate the unhealthy anti-Soviet campaign and stir up an atmosphere of suspicion and mistrust towards the Soviet Union and its policy.

It is not difficult to see that far from bearing out the Japanese leadership's declared desire to facilitate a positive development of Soviet-Japanese relations, this campaign launched in a transparent attempt to please Washington, Tokyo's relationship with which has cooled, is, on the contrary, plainly at odds with such declarations.

Speaking of who has really been pouring cold water on Soviet-Japanese relations, one should remember those clearly unfriendly, moreover hostile, actions taken over recent months in Japan, with regard to which Japanese authorities have not taken any effective measures despite repeated addresses by the Soviet side.

These have included forays by ultra-right extremists against Soviet offices in Japan and attempts to deny Soviet fishermen the right to a normal rest in the Japanese port of Onohama, a right to which they are entitled under an existing agreement.

One should also recall such a glaring case of hostile activities against the USSR as the dispatch of a freight container from the [as received] Japan to the Soviet Union, which concealed espionage equipment to gather intelligence across virtually all Soviet territory from eastern to western borders during the box's journey from the far eastern port of Nakhodka to Leningrad.

The Japanese side has effectively refused cooperation in probing the dispatch to the USSR of that container concealing spying equipment not declared at the customs and in identifying the specific wrong-doers involved in the clandestine operation as well as their patrons.

The loquacious Japanese press has passed the incident over in silence for some reasons as well.

Other things to be recalled should include attempts by Japanese authorities to strain trading and economic contacts, which form the basis of Soviet-Japanese relations, by whipping up anti-Sovietism and peddling all manner of detective stories.

All these activities are directly damaging to relations between the two neighboring countries, which, if they develop in a favorable manner (and this depends first of all on the Japanese side), could play a very important stabilizing role in creating a healthy situation in the Far East and improving the international climate in general.

Japanese Media Voices 'Concern'

LD211353 Moscow TASS in English 1209 GMT 21 Aug 87

[Text] Tokyo August 21 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vasiliy Golovnin reports:

The Soviet Foreign Ministry's representation over a propaganda campaign hostile to the USSR, which is continuing in Japan, has riveted the serious attention of the Japanese public and the press, with leading TV networks and dailies voicing concern about a possible cooling of bilateral relations.

Influential ASAHI said the document was a stern warning to the Japanese Government whose policy lately had showed increased anti-Soviet trends.

Answering a telephone query from this correspondent today, a spokesman for the Japanese Foreign Ministry denied the points made in the representation without substantiating his claims.

Tokyo is going out of its way to convince the public of the "innocence" of Nobuhiro Takeshima, Japan's naval attache in the USSR, and Takao Otani, deputy head of the Moscow office of the Mitsubishi Sezi firm, who have been caught out engaging in intelligence activities.

Professor Kuniko Iguchi of Tokyo's Sophia University, a prominent expert on international problems, said in an interview with ASAHI that the Japanese Government was pursuing such a foreign policy under pressure from Washington as was clearly at odds with the interests of easing world tension. Tokyo's short-sighted policy with regard to the USSR, she said, had been an utter failure.

DEMICHEV MEETS SYRIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION

LD211747 Moscow TASS in English 1728 GMT 21 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 21 TASS -- Petr Demichev, alternate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and first vice-president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, received in the Kremlin today a delegation from the People's Council of Syria, led by the Council speaker, member of the Ba'th regional leadership Mahmud al-Zu'bi.

The Syrian parliamentarians were informed in detail about the Soviet Union's effort to speed up the country's social and economic development.

The sides exchanged views on a broad range of international and regional problems and questions of inter-parliamentary cooperation in creating a comprehensive system of international peace and security.

They stressed the importance of Mikhail Gorbachev's meeting with Hafiz al-Asad for the further development of Soviet-Syrian cooperation.

Demichev described the package of Soviet initiatives directed at eliminating the threat of war, above all at averting nuclear catastrophe and defusing tension in individual regions.

It was stressed that the Soviet Union was fully resolved to build up efforts to secure a peaceful future for peoples, a future free from nuclear weapons and violence, imperialist diktat and interference.

Within this context it favoured a dynamic search for a settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict, an international conference on the Middle East and the earliest cessation of the Iran-Iraq war.

"We are glad to be in the Soviet Union on the eve of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Revolution, to familiarize ourselves with the great changes taking place in the country, with the USSR's experience," Al-Zu'bi said.

Syria's cooperation with the Soviet Union was extensive and diverse, he said. It covered such key areas as politics and economics, agriculture and construction.

"The joint Syrian-Soviet space flight was fresh evidence of the depth of bilateral relations, of the vitality of the friendship and cooperation treaty between our two countries."

"Our trip to Leningrad," said the head of the Syrian delegation, "helped us understand better why the Soviet Union, which paid during the war the heaviest price for the possibility to live in peace, is so active in the campaign to prevent another war.

"We in Syria deeply realize that the Soviet state's foreign policy initiatives meet the interests of the peoples in all countries.

"The Syrian people are watching with great interest the process of restructuring in the Soviet Union and fully back the USSR's peaceful policy, its consistent course towards achieving a fair peace in the Middle East and a lasting peace all over the world."

The conversation was attended by Lev Tolkunov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Pavel Zagrebelniy, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet, other officials, and Syria's charge d'affair in the Soviet Union.

On the same day the delegation held a conversation at the USSR Supreme Soviet. The sides informed each other about the activity of the two parliaments, discussed questions connected with the further development of their ties and exchanged views on issues of bilateral relations and topical international problems.

A luncheon in honour of the Syrian guests was held on behalf of the chairmen of the two chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The Syrian Embassy in the USSR gave a dinner in honour of the delegation.

USSR-ISRAEL FOREIGN MINISTRIES MEETING IN BONN

LD211555 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 21 Aug 87

[Text] It was announced at a short news conference in Moscow that representatives of the Soviet and Israeli Foreign Ministries have been meeting in Bonn. These meetings are part of the Soviet Union's efforts to turn the question of convening an international conference on the Middle East into a practical course, in order to bring about a just and all-around settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

On the other hand, emphasis has been placed on the Soviet Union's principled and firm position concerning the question of a resumption of relations with Israel. Any changes in these relations depend on a settlement in the Middle East.

PRAVDA NOTES CONTINUING U.S. BUILDUP IN GULF

PM241016 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Aug 87 Second Edition pp 1, 6

[Special correspondent V. Peresada report under the rubric "The Planet's Hot Spots: Persian Gulf": "Foreign Interference Widening"]

[Text] Kuwait, 23 Aug -- The buildup of American military might in the Persian Gulf continues.

Although a number of countries of the region believe that the foreign military presence in the region is making it possible to restrain Iran's pressure on the small Arab states which are in solidarity with Iraq, concern over the scale of this presence is becoming apparent in the press. "At least 41 U.S. warships and more than 20,000 servicemen have already been ordered to station themselves in the Gulf zone," the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS writes.

It looks very much as if, under cover of "concern to ensure stability in the Persian Gulf and safe navigation there," Washington is seeking to implement its age-old plan -- to establish American control over this oil-rich and strategically important region, an Aden radio broadcast says. New confirmation of this was provided by the decision announced by the Pentagon on creating a special command for the leadership of U.S. forces in the Gulf zone.

As the American television company CBS reports, the Pentagon denies that these operations could include a landing on the territory of the littoral states. At the same time, more and more marines are arriving here on American ships.

American radio stations broadcasting to the Near and Middle East have in the last few days once again stepped up attackes on Tehran, accusing it of "undermining navigation in the Gulf." The pretext was a statement by an Iranian military spokesman that Iran has indeed laid mines, but only off its own coast and exclusively for defensive purposes.

However, by all appearances, Washington takes no notice of Iranian denials. The press reports that another American minesweeper was sent to the Persian Gulf the other day. According to the same reports, the Netherlands has also decided to take part in minesweeping in the Gulf, under patent pressure from across the ocean. Thus, a third U.S. NATO ally -- along with Britain and France -- has made up its mind to interfere in the region.

Today a new feature has emerged in the alarming situation which has arisen in the Persian Gulf: It is being claimed that Saudi Arabia has agreed to refuel American combat aircraft in the Gulf zone. This was reported by THE WASHNGTON POST, citing diplomatic sources in the United States. It is first and foremost a question of the 58 aircraft based on the aircraft carrier Constellation. However, the Saudi agency SPA has denied these reports.

More and more signs are appearing that the United States is preparing for a military strike against us, K. Kharrazi, head of the information headquarters of the Iranian Supreme Military Council, stated.

COMMENTARY CONDEMNS ATTACKS ON RELATIONS WITH IRAN

NC221228 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1100 GMT 22 Aug 87

[Igor Sheftunov commentary]

[Text] Recent visits by USSR First Deuty Foreign Minister Vorontsov to Iran and Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Larijani to the Soviet Union led to definite steps toward the consolidation and expansion of Soviet-Iranian relations in various fields. However, these steps -- which are the outcome of good-neighborly relations between the Soviet Union and Iran -- have been very negatively assessed in the United States. For example, THE WASHINGTON POST carried a detailed article last week in which it strongly attacked the Soviet Union's policy toward Iran. This newspaper slanderously alleged that by strengthening and expanding its cooperation with Iran, the Soviet Union is following in the footsteps of the lascivious and greedy Russian tsars.

MOZAMBIQUE DEFENSE MINISTER ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

LD241016 Moscow TASS in English 0952 GMT 24 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 24 TASS -- General of the Army Alberto Joaquim Chipande, a member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Frelimo Party and national defense minister of the People's Republic of Mozambique, arrived in Moscow today on an official visit at the invitation of General of the Army Dmitriy Yazov, an alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and defense minister of the USSR.

CPSU DELEGATION CONTINUES VISIT TO BENIN

PM211051 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Aug 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "CPSU Delegation in Benin"]

[Text] Cotonou, 19 Aug -- A meeting was held 18 August in the Benin People's Revolutionary Party (PRPB) Central Committee between a CPSU delegation headed by N.F. Tatarchuk, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Kalinin CPSU Obkom, and members of the PRPB Central Committee apparatus and the leaders of the country's mass public organizations.

The CPSU delegation was acquainted with the tasks of the Benin revolution stemming from the Second PRPB Congress decisions, with progress made in party building and the development of Benin's economy. The members of the delegation informed the participants in the meeting of the progress made in implementing the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the January and June CPSU Central Committee plenums and of the changes taking place in Soviet society.

Today the CPSU delegation met members of the PRPB Central Committee Ideology, Propaganda, Education, and Culture Departments and the PRPB Central Committee Social Affairs Department. Joseph Degla, member of the PRPB Central Committee Political Bureau and head of these departments, and Rafiatu Karimu [name as published], chairman of the Benin Revolutionary Women's Organization National Executive Bureau, took part in the conversation.

The meeting discussed problems of ideological education, including plans to introduce Marxist-Leninist theory lectures at secondary school and university levels in Benin and to form a party school in the country.

During the conversation, J. Degla spoke in favor of further developing cooperation between Benin and the Soviet Union in the training of party and ideological cadres. CPSU assistance in this sphere is invaluable to us, he said.

GUINEA-BISSAU PARLIAMENTARIANS ARRIVE 22 AUG

LD222029 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0845 GMT 22 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow, 22 Aug (TASS) -- A delegation of the Guinea-Bissau National People's Assembly led by Mario Mendes Correia, candidate member of the African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde Central Committee Political Bureau and first deputy chairman of the Assembly, arrived in Moscow today at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

However, these are very old tunes with which everyone is fed up. These tunes are played in the United States every time relations between the Soviet Union and a country in the East begin to improve.

I want to draw the dear listeners' attention to another fact which I find very interesting. THE WASHINGTON POST, in a bid to denigrate the Soviet Union, fails to see that it is revealing the U.S. Administration's colonialist plans for Iran. The U.S. newspaper writes: Lord Curzon would turn in his grave if he were to know of the consolidation and expansion of Soviet-Iranian relations. THE WASHINGTON POST cites from Curzon's book, "Iran and the Problem of Iran," in which he explained the plan to turn Iran into a colony of the imperialist countries. The paper concludes that this book continues to be a guide for action by Western politicians even today. We wish to recall that Curzon, who was Britain's foreign secretary from 1919 and 1924, was one of the initiators of the British forces' occupation of Iran. U.S. politicians, and namely Prof [name indistinct], today praise Curzon's impudence in achieving his objectives in Iran. The British colonialists occupied Iran, made London's puppet, Vosuq ud-Dawleh, prime minister, and imposed a binding agreement upon that country which practically turned it into a British fiefdom. The American encyclopedia has recorded this incident as Curzon's victory.

The objective behind the U.S. Administration's (?attempt) to land U.S. commandos on Tabas and to send White House representatives McFarlane and North to Tehran on a secret mission apparently was to attain this kind of victory. Washington hoped to implement these plans and to bring a subservient government to power in Iran.

Everyone is aware of the outcome of these adventures. The White House failed in its efforts. But the imperialists refuse to admit that only the people of Iran and of the other Persian Gulf countries should be the owners of their homes and that no one but them has such a right. The United States and its partners have deployed dozens of warships in the Persian Gulf and are further escalating their military presence in that region. They are pressuring regional countries and stressing that they have no intention of leaving the area. The current followers of Lord Curzon should be reminded of the outcome of his notorious victory in Iran; namely, the British colonialists were forced to leave Iran, the British-Iranian agreement was abrogated, and Curzon's victory became Britain's disgraceful defeat.

As far as our country is concerned, the Soviet Union defined its policy toward Eastern countries at the very time that Curzon's colonialist adventures were being confronted. In a note it sent to the British Government at that time, the Soviet Union pointed out that it considered as its duty the intention to expand good relations with Eastern countries on the basis of respect for their interests and rights and with a view to defend them. Today, the Soviet Union continues to persistently adhere to this policy. The Soviet Union seeks to expand its cooperation with its southern neighbor, Iran, and strive to bring about the withdrawal of all warships that do not belong to Persian Gulf littoral states.

KOHL REMARKS ON PERSHING-1A MISSILES NOTED

LD221526 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 22 Aug 87

[Text] Chancellor Helmut Kohl has stated that the FRG Government does not intend to give up the Pershing-1A missiles with U.S. nuclear warheads. In an interview with the ARD television network in Bonn the chancellor asserted that there is no disagreement in the Bonn coalition government on this problem. However, when making a statement on Friday, Uwe Ronneburger, a member of the Free Democratic Party Presidium which forms part of the government, stressed that the Soviet-U.S. agreement on the elimination of medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles should not fall through due to the fault of the FRG.

FRG Pershing-1A Stands Viewed

LD240912 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 23 Aug 87

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Stanislav Kondrashov]

[Text] [Kondrashov] At the beginning of the program I mentioned some international events which while notable were nevertheless events on the periphery. In the main area -- nuclear disarmament -- there has been a lull. There have been no new steps toward an agreement on eliminating medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles in Europe. Why? Let's listen to Bonn:

[Correspondent Vladimir Kondratyev, identified by screen caption] This summer the weather in the FRG has been a talking point for everybody. Sunny days have been rare; most days have been cloudy and rainy. But this isn't causing the politicians a great deal of worry. Most of them spend their holidays in warmer climes including the chancellor.

No matter how much they talk about the weather here, however, there are problems that are more important. The ruling coalition is currently experiencing a serious crisis. The Christian Democratics and their Bavarian comrades-in-arms have fallen out with each other. Strauss, the leader of the Christian Social Union [CSU], thunders unceasingly against the Christian Democratic Union [CDU] for its attempts to revise the traditional right wing conservative foundation. The Christian Democrats are also having difficulties with the other partner in the ruling coalition, the Free Democratic Party [FDP]. They cannot find a common language on questions of foreign policy and these differences, as CU officials themselves estimate, are costing their party several percentage points of voters' support.

The key problem now is what is to happen to the Pershing-1A. It is a problem that has been created artificially. The Bundeswehr has missiles in its armory and not just the Pershings purchased from the United States in the 1960's. Officers and men maintain them and carry out exercises using them. If the FRG military men have such a strong desire to stage these games then that is their business. It is quite a different question when they try in Bonn to decide the fate of the main component which makes these missiles a terrible weapon -- the nuclear warheads. The warheads are kept under lock and key on U.S. bases and U.S. property.

It is only in the event of a nuclear clash that they must be installed in missiles under U.S. control and command. [video shows newspaper photographs of missiles and FRG troops handling missiles and assembling components of them in a small hanger-like building]

Bonn's position is illogical and therefore unreliable. No one can state openly that the warheads belong to the FRG because the FRG has rejected the possession of nuclear weapons. At the same time they talk about missiles -- including warheads -- belonging to a third country, in other words the FRG, which must, therefore, supposedly be taken out of the Soviet-U.S. agreement. When the relevant decision was adopted on 1 June it was calculated that the USSR would not want to make the fate of the agreement dependent upon these missiles. Such arguments are still being heard now. Those who on the day the decision was made warned that Bonn's problems were only just beginning were right. Now that the question has been raised in a very acute way. Now that the Pershing warheads really have become an obstacle on the path toward an accord, many of those who voted for a corrupt compromise are seriously worried. [video shows Kondratyev speaking to camera in the open air]

These are mostly Free Democrats. If the Geneva dialogue fails the whole world will see who is responsible. The FDP leaders, Foreign Minister Genscher and Bangemann, chairman of the party, are avoiding calling a spade a spade. Without mentioning the Pershing-1As they state that the FRG must not hamper the United States and the USSR in their quest for unity. Ronneburger, deputy chairman of the parliamentary faction, is calling for the Pershings to be included in the talks in the interests of a double-zero solution.

In the opinion of the opposition Social Democrats, the Free Democrats are now closer to them than they are to their coalition partners. The moment of truth will come in the Bundestag after the holidays. Then the Social Democrats and the Greens will put the question to the vote directly. [video shows clips of appearances of FRG politicians on television; conference scenes]

Chancellor Kohl is avoiding making hasty statements on this topic. There are grounds for believing, however, that in his department they are looking hard for a way out of the difficult situation into which the Bonn government has incautiously got itself. The Chancellor has been obliged to take into account pressure from the extreme right wingers within his ranks. The Bavarian, Strauss, who is always seeking grounds for criticism -- well, there he is, he will not fail to rebuff any encroachment upon nuclear additions to the Pershings which he secured for the FRG during his time as defense minister.

Indeed Strauss is suspected first and foremost of creating the prerequisites for turning the FRG into a nuclear power. [video shows Chancellor Kohl being interviewed by an unidentified correspondent; and Strauss also being interviewed]

On the FRG territory that he governs near the village of Wackersdorf, a powerful center for processing used elements from nuclear power stations is being built. This is a model of the facility which is being built. The enrichment process makes it possible to obtain the plutonium which is essential for developing nuclear charges. FRG television journalists have carried out a serious analysis of the extent to which the Wackersdorf center serves this objective.

Riesenhuber, minister of science and technology, has no doubts. The nuclear fuel which will be produced at Wackersdorf is unsuitable for developing a bomb. Scientists, and even those who carry out investigations on behalf of the Defense Ministry say however, that from the scientific point of view, it is quite possible. All one has to do is to incorporate a few technical refinements.

Those who are opposed to the project point out continually that a national center for the production of warheads would be intolerable. They cannot be deluded by talk about the nuclear elements from the reactors being unsuitable. They are well informed about the fact that just one simple step would be enough to enrich the spent elements after, say 3 months rather than the 3 years that has been prescribed; then all the technical problems will disappear. The plutonium will be the best. [video shows model of the Wackersdorf plant; newspaper pictures and cuttings; demonstrations taking place at the site; press drawings illustrating the processes]

If the direct route from the reactor to the atomic bomb runs via pluntonium, then Wackersdorf represents an indirect road for transforming the FRG into a nuclear power, DER SPIEGEL magazine believes. To those who look ahead it is clear that nuclear warheads require means of delivery and that is why they do not want to give up the Pershings, which, according to the plans of the steel helmet faction -- that is what they call the dyed-in-the-wool opponents of disarmament -- are due to be replaced with new and more modern missiles by the year 1991. Whether they want it or not on the banks of the Rhine, there is still going to have to be a return to serious talking about the Pershing-1As. These discussions are not over. The double zero has to live up to its name and it is clear to anyone who can count that zero plus zero makes zero and not 72. The sooner this truth is recognized in Bonn the quicker it will be possible to move toward an accord which for the first time will open up the possibility of considerably reducing the nuclear death potential that has been amassed in Europe. [video shows Kondratyev speaking to camera in the open air]

[Kondrashov] A few words about the U.S. position. They still stand by their 72 warheads for the Pershing-1As just like one might say, Pilate washing his hands. They still say that they will not bring into the bilateral U.S.-Soviet talks in Geneva their relations and their agreement with a third party -- that is to say with the FRG. This position was repeated last week by Secretary of State Shultz and also by Burt, the U.S. Ambassador in Bonn. One can only guess how the matter will be cleared up by the date of the meeting between Comrade Shevardnadze and Shultz in the United States in the middle of September.

FRG NATIONAL RUST TO GO ON TRIAL 2 SEP

LD211539 Moscow TASS in English 1531 GMT 21 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 21 TASS -- The criminal offenses panel of the Soviet Union's Supreme Court will begin examining the case of West German national Mathias Rust in Moscow on September 2, a TASS correspondent was told at the Supreme Court.

Rust will be tried on open court session chaired by Robert Tikhomirnov, a member of the Supreme Court of the USSR. Vladimir Andreyev, chief aide to the procurator-general of the USSR, will be the public prosecutor at the trial.

Rust will be defended by Vsevolod Yakovlev, a member of the Moscow city bar for 23 years who been defense counsel at many trials, including both criminal and civil procedures. He speaks German and has on five occasions defended foreign nationals, including West Germans.

Late last May Rust, flying in a sport plane from the Gulf of Finland, made an illegal crossing into Soviet air space over the territory of Soviet Estonia, overflew the territory of the Russian Federation and landed in Moscow.

This is why he has been charged under the criminal codes of two Soviet constituent republics -- Estonia and the Russian Federation -- with an illegal entry into the USSR (Article 81 of the Criminal Code of Estonia), violations of international flight rules, and malicious hooliganism (Article 84 and Part 2 of Article 206 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation).

At the trial Rust will be provided with qualified interpreters.

FRG LEADERS IN 'CONNIVANCE' WITH PRO-HESS FORCES

LD231021 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0730 GMT 23 Aug 87

[Text] Groups on the far right in the FRG are using the death of the Nazi criminal Hess, who committed suicide in Spandau prison on 17 August, to openly propagate the ideas of fascism and rehabilitate the monstrous crimes of the Third Reich. This is what the present situation in the FRG looks like: There have been demonstrations by the brownshirts in many towns there; in Bonn, they have distributed leaflets claiming that Hess was killed; similar conjectures are being inflated by the bourgeois press, too. Here is what our correspondent, Aleksandr Kurillin, reports from Bonn:

[Kurillin] The death of one of the founders of the Third Reich, the 93-year-old fascist Hess, would possibly not have attracted so much attention had it not been for the chauvinistic campaign unleashed by neo-Nazis and revanchists. It has been going on incessantly for a week now. The eternal yesterday's men, as they are called here, have been arranging demonstrations with fascist slogans outside Spandau Prison in West Berlin almost daily. They are also holding their gatherings in many large cities in FRG territory. The main goal of the brownshirt's campaign is to whitewash Hess and present him almost as a martyr who was not involved in the fascist brutalities.

The absurdity of such claims is obvious, for it was none other than Hess who signed documents sending tens of thousands of people to extermination at the end of the 1930s. It was also he who undertook -- and in all probability, with Hitler's permission -- the flight to Britain, which ended unhappily for him, the purpose of which was to reach an accord with the most reactionary circles in Great Britain to end the war in the West so that all forces and resources could be concentrated on the war with the Soviet Union and on the extermination of millions of people in the Eastern territories of the former Third Reich. One gets the impression that they are trying for all they are worth to forget those facts.

DEPUTY PREMIER TOLSTYKH ON RESTRUCTURING RESEARCH

PM241131 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 21 Aug 87 pp 1-2

[D. Pipko interview with B. Tolstykh, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, under the "Economic Restructuring: The Top Echelon of Management" rubric: "Scientific Quest: Verification Through Practice"; date and place of interview not given; first two paragraphs are editorial introduction]

[Text] The acceleration of scientific and technical progress is one of the most difficult and fundamental questions. As party decisions have noted, the country has not avoided a slowdown in this sphere, either. A lag behind the world level has been tolerated in a number of leading sectors of science and technology. There are frequent instances where the most progressive ideas are not put to practical use for years and even decades. Despite having our own developments capable of ensuring a high technical standard and competitiveness of our output, we have resorted to making purchases abroad.

The task today is to change the course of events and transform scientific and technical progress into the main factor of economic growth. In order to do this the party and the government, among other things, adopted a resolution designed to step up the role of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology in managing scientific and technical progress. Today B. Tolstykh, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, talks about the main avenues of restructuring outlined in it:

[Tolstykh] The combination of the planning principle and economic methods of leadership has become the basis of restructuring the management of scientific and technical progress. There are no more so-called new equipment plans. The planning of scientific and technical progress is an inalienable part of economic and social development plans. Their elaboration is concentrated wholly in one organ -- the USSR Gosplan.

You ask the question: What can the State Committee for Science and Technology manage in this situation and how? I will tell you. But I will start by recalling Lenin's well known words: The entire art of management consists of opportunity taking stock and knowing where to concentrate your main forces and attention. Thus, State Committee of Science and Technology specialists and their partners who are working on one of the main "products" of the committee's activity -- the Comprehensive Program for Scientific and Technical Progress for the Next 20 Years -- must "opportunely take stock and know."

Combining scientists' predictions and the specific requirements of the national economy, the Comprehensive Program is now being transformed into a most important preplan document and the basis for elaborating long-term and 5-year plans, and thus, into one of the main channels for making practical use of the great achievements of science and technology. Is this like the directive method of introduction, which is familiar to everyone? Its essence is different. Inclusion in the plan, as a rule, means that the work will be carried out on the basis of state orders, which give the executors considerable economic advantages.

In order for the client to have opportunities to maneuver and to choose the executor, several versions, ways, and means for resolving the tasks ahead will be envisaged in the program. It is planned to amplify and update it every 5 years. Hence it must be submitted to the USSR Council of Ministers and its permanent organs and the union Gosplan no later than 3 years before the beginning of the next 5-year plan.

Moreover, we are, of course, not talking about the neofascists. We know where we stand with them, as they say. Indeed, it is the rightwing conservative government now in power that is essentially doing nothing against the activity of neo-Nazi organizations and all manner of revanchist land associations. It is the connivance of the authorities that explains the current forays by the brownshirts. On Saturday, for example, they held demonstrations outside the embassies of the former allies of the anti-Hitler coalition in Bonn shouting slogans: Hess is with us, Hess is free.

On Wednesday, the day of the fascist criminal's funeral, forays by neo-Nazis are expected throughout the FRG.

Of course there are also forces in the FRG that are appealing for a halt to the neo-Nazi hysteria and a ban on activities by Brownshirt organizations. Progressive forces see attempts to make a martyr out of Hess as being cynical, ignoring the memory of millions of genuine martyrs and victims of fascism: millions of women, children, and old people who perished in the gas chambers and were tortured in Nazi torture chambers.

BALTIC EMIGRES STAGE 'GET-TOGETHER' IN STOCKHOLM

LD232049 Moscow TASS in English 2006 GMT 23 Aug 87

[Text] Stockholm August 23 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Vukolov reports:

An abortive farce is a possible name for a get-together staged today in the Swedish capital by local emigre organizations, including the so-called Estonian representation to Sweden and the Baltic committee. Their members from among former residents of the Soviet Baltic area wilfully usurped the right "to represent" the peoples of the Soviet Baltic Republics in Sweden.

The evident aim of the hate-rally was to smear the policy of the Soviet Union under thought-up slogans of "absence of freedoms and granting independence", to defame the life of the Soviet Baltic Republics and at the same time to put into doubt the process of the reorganization and democratization of the Soviet Union.

The get-together in Stockholm was attended by local journalists and TV cameramen whose interest was surely prodded by this anti-Soviet provocation. The whole gathering, together with "protesters", numbered a mere 40-50 people, which shows how Swedes respond to the calls of local emigre quarters "to render them support".

FINNISH BORDER GUARD CHIEF ARRIVES FOR VISIT

PM240837 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Aug 87 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "On an Official Visit"]

[Text] On 20 August a Finnish border guard delegation headed by Lieutenant General E. Kiryavaynen [name as published], chief of the border guard administration, arrived in the Soviet Union on an official visit at the invitation of Army General V.A. Matrosov, chief of the USSR KGB Border Guard Troops.

The dialectics of elaborating the Comprehensive Program lie in the fact that it must embrace or at least take into consideration all promising ideas -- be they developments from leading research institutes or proposals from lone inventors. On the other hand it is clear to everyone that even the most developed country cannot occupy leading positions in all avenues of science and technology. Thus it is necessary to choose those avenues where it is possible to make a breakthrough to advanced positions by concentrating forces and resources on them.

The choice and substantiation of such priority avenues of scientific and technical progress is one of the State Committee for Science and Technology's main tasks. Furthermore in each one of them the committee is obliged to opportunely organize research and development projects enabling it to achieve results ahead of schedule. The advantages of intersectorial scientific and technical complexes and other forms of integrating science and production and international cooperation may be used for this. Provision has been also been made for organizing work within the framework of state targeted scientific and technical programs.

[Pipko] The experience of past years has shown, however. targeted programs did not fully justify the hopes invested in them. Is it necessary to return to this form of collaboration?

[Tolstykh] It was not the form but the substance which was at fault. In pursuing a number of programs we devalued their essence: Many of them, while described as all-union programs, resolved exclusively sectorial tasks. Accordingly, in "watching over" them, the committee substituted itself for the ministries. Yet even then things should have been been checked against foreign experience. We would have found that in the United States, for example, there is a total of only 10 national programs in operation. They include the notorious SDI, a biomedical research program incorporating the struggle against AIDS, and the so-called strategic computer initiative. Japan has a few more -- 14. One of these is associated with the creation of a fifth-generation computer, while another, called "Sunlight," is concentrated on the development and extensive utilization of alternative sources of energy.

The list of state targeted scientific and technical programs, each of which is approved by the government, will also be limited. They must have an intersectorial character and provide for the creation of fundamentally new equipment, technology, and materials and the resolution of large-scale problems which are of revolutionary significance for the economy, or which ensure that the development of production gets up to world levels. In order to ensure the prompt assimilation of these innovations the State Committee for Science and Technology has been given the right to draw up state orders for the development of science and technology in conjunction with the USSR Academy of Sciences, the USSR Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education, ministries, and departments and to approach Gosplan with proposals for their inclusion in state plans.

Such privileges are extended to the most important development projects coming out of intersectorial science and technology complexes and academy and VUZ science, and major inventions of statewide significance. Furthermore Gosplan and the State Committee for Science and Technology are obligated to draw up state orders for the development of experimental facilities for intersectorial science and technology complexes and collectives participating in state targeted programs.

[Pipko] Boris Leontyevich, how will the research institutes, design offices, and VUZ and academy laboratories which do not come into the priority avenues live and operate? What incentives and guarantees for the introduction of developments will they receive?

[Tolstykh] The only possible guarantee consists of conditions in which each enterprise and collective will be deeply committed to making use of the achievements of science and technology. The creation of such conditions is the most important task of restructuring. Its resolution is linked with the consistent improvement of the economic mechanism.

It is a question of making a transition to economic methods which will instill interest in raising the technical standard of production and output quality and reducing the time it takes to create innovations. We must judge the work of scientific collectives by the benefit derived from using the results of their theoretical and applied research and engineering developments in the national economy. Only progressive technologies, new generations of equipment, and materials with prescribed characteristics can support today the reputation and confirm the need -- I stress, the need -- for the existence of a particular institute or design office.

The development of economic accountability principles in relations between research, project and design, and technological organizations and enterprises will be an important step on this path. The utilization of contract prices for scientific and technical developments and services is envisaged here, as is the intensification of mutual "financial" responsibility both for the technical standard, effectiveness, and quality of developments and also for the timely creation, assimilation, and introduction into production of new equipment and technology.

Such measures will permit the consistent transition of our research institutes, design offices, technological organizations, and science-and-production associations to complete economic accountability, self-capitalization, and self-financing with the use of the normative method for distributing profit. Furthermore, it is planned in principle to change the procedure for financing research and experimental and design work. We must shift from financing the maintenance of organizations to financing concrete contracted work with clients with an interest in seeing it carried out.

[Pipko] How will our science-and-production associations and our intersectorial science and technology complexes feel in the new management conditions, and what awaits sectorial research institutes and design offices in the future?

[Tolstykh] In industry almost three-fourths of the former independent research institutes and design offices have now become part of science-and-production and production associations and large enterprises. It is planned to complete this transition process by the end of the 5-year plan, preserving the independence only of those leading collectives which are working on problems of a sectorwide character. It is important not to allow the transferred research institutes to stop being scientific collectives and turn into a permanent reserve for sending people to kolkhozes or vegetable storehouses.

Everything is clear with regard to science-and-production associations. They have proved their effectiveness both from the viewpoint of considerably reducing the time taken for the creation and introduction of new equipment and technology and also from the viewpoint of raising the standard of development projects. Whereas 5 years ago we had 211 such associations, now there are nearly 400. By the end of the 5-year plan there will be almost 500, True, as was pointed out at the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum, the process of creating new science-and-production associations has been retarded in our country -- ministries are not displaying activeness here. As yet certain questions concerned with planning and providing incentives for the activity of science-and-production associations as a unified economic complex have not been resolved. In order to remove these difficulties the State Committee for Science and Technology is now elaborating the necessary normative documents.

Intersectorial science and technology complexes are an extremely promising form of integrating science and production. Despite all the difficulties in setting them up, it is now clear that they can resolve the task facing them -- reaching and consolidating their position at the very forefront of scientific and technological progress. The fact that the normative documents under which the intersectorial science and technology complexes operate were created prior to the June plenum and the transition to economic management methods has to some extent taken the complexes unawares is another question.

[Pipko] Boris Leontyevich, the State Committee for Science and Technology has been given responsibility for organizing work on the Comprehensive Program for CEMA Countries' Scientific and Technical Progress Through the Year 2000. How do you rate the vigor of our head organizations in implementing this?

[Tolstykh] Three minus [below standard academic pass grade of 3 out of 5] for some of them. They are largely to blame for unjustifiably delaying the organizational period and allowing a situation in which there are still many elements of formalism in work with partners. An inability to conduct business on the principles of the international division of labor is also taking its toll. I believe, however, that these "infantile" disorders will soon be overcome. We are now concentrating our main attention on coordinating detailed plans for the phased creation and industrial assimilation of the new output. The Soviet Union has proposed that 25-30 very large-scale projects be singled out at state plan level. They include questions of creating supercomputers, automated plants, and a ceramic engine.

[Pipko] In your opinion, which of the problems retarding rates of scientific and technical progress is having the most perceptible impact? How can we lessen the braking effect?

[Tolstykh] The weakness of experimental facilities must be ranked among such problems -- only approximately 37 percent of the scientific institutes in our country have them. For a long time no one tried to reduce this shortcoming: In the last 5-year plan annual investments for the creation of experimental facilities in research institutes totaled only 0.5 percent of the expenditure on the construction of production projects.

Another no less acute question is the provision of scientific instrumentation, the demand for which is at times only satisfied 20-25 percent in our country. Only a few of our institutes, laboratories, and design offices have automated systems for scientific research and design. A paradoxical situation has arisen: In our country a researcher has only half as much equipment as a worker. By contrast, in the United States a scientist has 70 percent more equipment.

We must declare a war to the death on nonessential projects in order to make fuller use of our scientific and technical potential. As checks have shown, even in leading research institutes often only one-fourth of the total volume of work is devoted to projects of statewide significance. Little attention is devoted to the groundwork for the future guaranteeing the reaching of world standards. Only 30 percent of the development projects in research institutes and design offices are at the level of inventions.

I will not hide the fact that many of our problems are associated with the human factor. In particular we show little concern for attracting talented young people into science. Yet almost 40 percent of our doctors of sciences are already the wrong side of 60. In the last 15 years the number of scientists in the most vigorous 30-40 age

group has decreased from 40 to 33 percent. Yet in the United States they account for a good half. Attempts are now under way to "rejuvenate" science. In particular, age restrictions for leaders of scientific institutes have been introduced in the USSR Academy of Sciences system. A great deal of complex work lies ahead, but it must be done.

In the projected fundamental restructuring, incidentally, there can be no simple matters.

DEMONSTRATIONS HELD IN BALTIC 23 AUGUST

Vilnius Demonstration 'Flops'

LD231401 Moscow TASS in English 1335 GMT 23 Aug 87

["Anti-Soviet Provocation in Lithuania Flops" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Vilnius August 23 TASS -- Today a group of extremists incited by Western radio stations took an attempt to stage an anti-Soviet demonstration in Vilnius, the Lithuanian capital, aimed at smearing a decision taken by the Lithuanian people in 1940 to restore Soviet power in this area and to accede to the USSR.

Despite instructions repeatedly broadcast by foreign radio stations, indicating time and place of gathering near the monument to Polish poet Adam Mickievicz, only 250-300 people gathered there, including casual passers-by: A thronged place of the old part of the city, visited by tourists, was chosen for the hate-rally. The scheme that believers who crowded at the time the nearby St. Anna Church, would join the plotters, failed: Usual Sunday service continued.

A paltry group of aggressive extremists (some 30 people) came to the monument. They sang religious songs, deliivered short speeches and slogans. The get-together passed without an incident. Foreign journalists were present at the rally.

Speakers attempted to exonerate local collaborationists -- war criminals and Nazi henchmen -- who had participated in extermination of 700,000 citizens. Those butchers found refuge in the West after the war and now pass themselves for human rights champions. Those war criminals also included a certain Algirdas Klimajtis who participated in extermination of the Jewish population in the big city of Kaunas. His son -- professional provocateur Algis Klimajtis, leader of the so-called European bureau of the World Federation of Balts -- was a mastermind of today's provocation, about which and about connections with whom speakers boasted.

These days prominent respresentatives of the Lithuanian people expressed in their speeches on television, radio and in newspapers their negative attitude to such provocations, since they are engineered under the CIA's aegis and are clearly spearheaded against the processes of the reorganization and democratization which are in progress in the USSR.

VOA 'Instigates' Tallinn Protest

LD231917 Moscow TASS in English 1907 GMT 23 Aug 87

[Text] Tallinn August 23 TASS -- A gathering instigated by the Voice of America, the subversive Free Europe and Liberty radio stations, and also by a small group of persons previously sentenced for anti-Soviet activity was held in the Estonian capital today.

This propaganda "show", held in the Hirve Park in the centre of Tallinn according to a scenario of anti-Sovieteers who cast doubt on the legality of the Soviet-German Non-Aggression Pact of 1939, gathered several hundred curious onlookers.

The participants in the gathering headed by a certain Tijt Madisson demagogically from bourgeois-nationalistic positions interpreted some provisions of the treaty. Speculating on the national feelings of Estonians they laid flowers to the sculpture of Linda, the widow of the legendary hero of the national epic Kalevipoeg. By this action the provocateurs tried to distort, to cast aspersions on the revolutionary past of Estonia's working people, on the fraternal community of Soviet peoples.

The foreign "radio voices" began to prepare for the gathering long ago. Lately they broadcast direct instructions on how to prepare for such actions. They also distorted the aims and policy of the Soviet state in the pre-war years, the essence of the Soviet-German pact.

The USSR's ideological enemies are making their main stake on using the process of democratisation and openness in the country to delude Soviet people with false aims and warped values, to sow among them doubt about the correctness and sincerity of the party's policy, its course of restructuring and of improving the state of affairs in the country. But if there are those who think that they can achieve these aims they are deeply wrong. The Estonian people has passed through three revolutions together with the other peoples of the USSR and will never be pushed off its chosen road.

'Provocateurs' Assemble in Riga

LD232003 Moscow TASS in English 1959 GMT 23 Aug 87

[Text] Riga August 23 TASS -- A TASS correspondent reports:

Drivers in Riga who are used to impeccable order on their city's streets were seething with indignation today. Traffic had to slow down in the very centre of the city near the monument to freedom inscribed on which are simple words cherished by every person -- "To the Homeland and Freedom". Assembled there were groups of people who tried to distort these sacred concepts. On the prompting of Western radio voices and some American congressmen they chose August 23, the anniversary of the signing of the Soviet-German Non-Agression Pact, as the day for their gathering and distorted the true meaning and importance of that historic fact. The organisers of the gathering qualified it not as an expression of the USSR's concern for the security of its own people and the peoples of the Baltic Republics in face of the danger posed by fascism but as an act that started the "enslavement" of Latvians and tried to come out with nationalistic slogans.

"Do these people have any conscience at all? By what right are they using this monument, built on money donated by the people, including myself, for their unseemly aims?", 70-year-old Valia Zvejnieks asked bystanders with tears in her eyes. Like hundreds of other residents of Riga she was involuntarily caught up in this bottleneck. "What do they want? To bring back a past of which they know nothing at all? Why won't they ask me. I will tell them how in the years of the Ulmanis dictatorship thousands of jobless Latvians stood near the labour exchange in hope of getting work. I had nothing to feed my children with. I can describe the years of bourgeois rule only as the blackest page in my life".

"This is not even a spectacle but buffoonery of the lowest grade", Engineer Harij Ritins said with bitterness. "I have the impression that for some people the whipping up of nationalistic passions is becoming a professional occupation."

Edmund Cirvilis, who claims to belong to the group of "human rights champions" calling itself "Helsinki-87", tried to convince those present that the members of this group were genuine champions of civil rights. He speaks insinuatingly and his appearance is deceptive because Cirvilis is a former fascist soldier and saboteur: in 1945 he finished a school for saboteurs and was infiltrated into the territory of the USSR to organise acts of terrorism. For this he was sentenced to ten years.

Cirvilis and his like could not care less about perfecting democracy, improving the economy and the demographic situation and raising the living standards of the Latvian people. Their purpose is to sow doubt about the correctness of the road chosen by the Latvian people in August 1940 when Latvia voluntarily joined the USSR. This is not concealed also by another member of the group "Helsinki-87", the 28-year-old Janis Barkans. Ten years ago he was sentenced for malicious hooliganism, he was sentenced again six years later, and the third time four years ago.

Both the two-bit players and the main characters in the cheap anti-Soviet show that was organised and rehearsed across the ocean are as like as two peas, just as the aims of the provocation that was staged in the shadow of the majestic monument of the people's history. They became an instrument of the incendiary action of twenty American senators who took upon themselves the unsuitable role of teachers and mentors of the Baltic peoples. That was a direct interference in the USSR's internal affairs.

"Clear the street of the provocateurs" -- the voices of Latvian workers, students and intellectuals sounded near the monument to freedom.

Riga Demonstrators Beaten Up

AU241102 Paris AFP in English 1052 GMT 24 Aug 87

[Anne Penketh report]

[Text] Moscow, Aug 24 (AFP) -- Uniformed police and members of the KGB secret police Sunday beat up demonstrators in Riga, capital of the Baltic state of Latvia, where more than 5,000 people were marking the 48th anniversary of a Nazi-Soviet pact, dissident sources said here Monday.

Demonstrations Sunday took place in all three Soviet Baltic states -- Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania -- in their respective capitals Riga, Tallinn and Vilnius. They were held to mark the anniversary of the 1939 Soviet-German Nonaggression Pact, widely held to have prepared the way for the annexation of the strongly nationalist states by Moscow.

On Sunday night Latvian television broadcast interviews with participants at the Riga demonstration, who accused police of attacking demonstrators, according to Moscow-based dissident Valeriy Senderov.

Mr. Senderov told AFP Monday that according to members of the human rights organisation Helsinki-86 in Riga, police did not break up the demonstration, which continued from Sunday morning until 11 p.m.

Soviet media reported the demonstrations in the three Baltic states, although playing down the numbers involved compared with Western reports, after accusing Western radio stations and visiting U.S. congressmen of prompting the action.

Western diplomats here commented Monday that Soviet media comment in the run-up to the demonstrations was a sign of continuing official nervousness over the nationalities question, particularly in the light of last month's mass demonstrations in front of the Kremlin by Crimean Tatars.

Representatives of exiled Baltic opposition groups said in Stockholm Sunday that in Riga around 10,000 people had filed past the Monument to Liberty in the city centre, laying flowers at the monument which symbolises free Latvia. The numbers reportedly swelled in the evening from 6,000 earlier.

Mr. Senderov said that according to his sources in Riga several thousand had taken part, and put the figure at over 5,000.

TASS news agency did not say how many people took part in the Riga demonstration, but said that drivers there were "seething with indignation" as traffic was disrupted.

It renewed its attack on Western media for having reportedly encouraged the gathering which "distorted the true meaning and importance" of the 1939 pact. The demonstration, TASS charged, thus turned "an expression of the Soviet concern for the security of its own people and the peoples of the Baltic republics in face of the danger posed by fascism" into a nationalistic protest against Latvian "enslavement".

In the Lithuanian capital of Vilnius, a Western source said that 500 demonstrators took part in a similar action. But according to TASS, "despite instructions repeatedly broadcast by foreign radio stations, indicating time and place" only "a paltry group of aggressive extremists (some 30 people) came to the monument." The Soviet news agency put the total number of people who gathered at the Vilnius monument at 250 to 300 "including casual passers-by".

In Tallinn, according to Soviet media, "a gathering instigated by the Voice of America, the subversive Free European and Liberty Radio stations, and also by a small group of persons previously sentenced for anti-Soviet activity" was held, in the presence of "several hundred curious onlookers".

Independent assessment of the numbers at the Estonian demonstration was unavailable. Apart from the police intervention in Riga, no violence was reported during the other demonstrations.

The demonstrations in the Baltic republics come less than a month after demonstrations by up to 1,000 Tatars in central Moscow, seeking to return to their native Crimea from where they deported by Stalin in 1944 for allegedly collaborating with the Nazis.

In the face of daily protests at the entrance to Red Square, a government commission was set up under the chairmanship of Soviet President Andrey Gromyko, who agreed to receive Tatar representatives. But they failed to win a meeting with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, and their protests ended at the end of last month when they were sent back to Soviet Central Asia by Soviet authorities.

Kazakh nationalism, highlighted by bloody riots in Alma-Ata last December, is another indication of the dimensions of the problem facing the central authorities.

Western diplomats noted that the Soviet media, in line with current policy of openness, or "glasnost" had not sought to ignore the recent nationalistic movements. But they commented that Sunday's movement showed that "the nationalist problem has not been solved. They have to come up with a strategy."

LATVIAN FOREIGN MINISTER BARTKEVICH INTERVIEWED

PM240951 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 22 Aug 87 p 3

[Interviw with Latvian Foreign Minister L.L. Bartkevich by TASS correspondent V. Sirmgalvis: "Radio Voices' Trumped Card"; date and place of interview not given]

[Text] Among the books describing how the Latvian people struggled for their bright destiny, a special place belongs to the recently published anthology "Restoration of Soviet Power in Latvia and the Latvian SSR's Entry into the USSR" ["Vosstanovleniye Sovetskoy vlasti v Latvii i vkhozhdeniye Latviyskoy SSR v sostav SSSR"]. It consists solely of documents. These priceless pieces of evidence, and some of them are published for the first time, describe the true historical events which the hostile radio voices -- RFE and VOA, which broadcast in Latvian -- are now trying to distort.

"Restructuring in our country and the processes of democratization and broad glasnost have cut the ground from under our enemies' feet," Latvian Foreign Minister L.L. Bartkevich told a TASS correspondent. "In the frantic search for new forms for their political and psychological aggression against the USSR they have decided to recarve history, keeping quiet about some facts and inventing others. Looking at the calendar, they have derived a 'fresh' pretext for their manipulations -- the signing in 1939 of the Soviet-German Nonaggression Pact which allegedly decided the fate of the Baltic states which were 'surrendered' to the Soviet Union.

"I believe there is no need to remind you in detail of the very complex international situation in which this document was signed or of the importance it had at the time. I will merely emphasize that at that time Latvia was isolated, the West was refusing it guarantees of security, and the country's people were looking hopefully toward the Soviet Union. But the holders of the 'Baltic card' tirelessly assert that Soviet power was brought to Latvia on the Red Army bayonets.

"The anthology publishes the 1939 pact on mutual aid between Latvia and the USSR and the announcement of the Latvian Government's decision under which Soviet military units were stationed in Latvia for the purpose of defending it against the encroachments of Hitler's Germany. These troops were instructed not to interfere in internal affairs.

"Despite the terror and persecutions during the bourgeois dictatorship, underground work by Latvia's Communists continued and they created a unified workers' front with the left-wing social democrats and subsequently, on its basis, the antifascist popular front.

"Demonstrating today their 'nonrecognition of the illegal power,' some people want to forget that the fully empowered representatives of virtually all states accredited to Riga, including the United States and Britian, bore witness in June 1940 to their respect for and recognition of the people's government headed by Professor A. Kirkhenshteyn.

"In 1940 it was not a 'flourishing free republic' which fell but a dictatorship established back in 1934 by Karl Ulmanis, which had abolished bourgeois-democratic freedoms, political parties, the parliament, and the trade unions. The peaceful revolution of 1940, accomplished without an armed uprising and without civil war, restored democratic freedoms. It is not difficult to be persuaded of this. The materials of the counting commissions at the Saeima elections, which included representatives of the left-wing forces and the bourgeoisie, have been preserved. But as soon as the people's Saeima for which even broad circles of the bourgeoisie had voted, adopted, at its first session, a declaration on state power and on Latvia's entry into the USSR, the United States, Britain, and Germany immediately adopted a hostile position with regard to Soviet Latvia.

"The Latvian people's Saeima 21 June 1940 declaration contains the following lines: 'It is only with the aid of their great friend the Soviet Union and as an equal member of the fraternal family of Soviet republics that the Latvian people will be able to boost their economy, develop their national culture, ensure national equality, and ensure peace, food, and true freedom for the Latvian people.' Prophetic words!

"But not everyone was pleased with this turn of events. The former land and house owners, the aizsargi [paramilitary home guard in pre-Soviet Latvia], and the bourgeois army officers, members of nationalist associations and paid Nazi agents went into hiding. They showed their true face with the arrival of the Hitlerites. The Latvian guardsmen, partisans, and underground members fought on the other side of the front. And it was they, with their brothers of the most diverse nationalities, who brought freedom from the brown plague.

"But peace did not come to our long-suffering land with victory day. The nationalist bandits and former collaborators with the invaders did not lay down their arms. They claimed they were fighting for the 'free Latvian people.' But essentially they were cutthroats and murderers. They totally slaughtered over 140 Latvian families alone.

"The 'Baltic card' which the Western special services and the Latvian reactionary emigres are trying to make out is an ace in their anti-Soviet struggle is in fact a bluff counting on a poor knowledge of history."

KIROV RUSSIAN ORTHODOX SEEK SECOND CHURCH

PM201100 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 33, 16 Aug 87 p 13

[Aleksandr Nezhnyy article: "Law and Conscience"]

[Text] Russian Orthodox Christians in the city of Kirov are insisting on their constitutional right to form, officially, a second religious community. Who opposes them and why?

When I joined Vyacheslav Podshibyakin, a senior inspector of the Council for Religious Affairs of the USSR Council of Ministers, in saying that there was no legal basis for saying "no" to Christians of the city of Kirov wishing to form another religious community, Yuriy Karacharov, Secretary of the Kirov Regional Party Committee, stubbornly repeated that this would be "inexpedient." When we made straightforward references to the constitution and the law Yuriy Karacharov, who grew quite desperate, exploded: "I've been told, you're inciting the believers!" When we left the office Podshibyakin smiled sadly and said· "A threadbare device."

Old views, especially those that have ossified into dogmas, often have absolute power over people. The times are changing, society is straining to form new convictions and is trying to live in conditions of democratism and openness. We, at long last, are getting rid of the image of the bureaucratic idol, the image of a smoothly planed pole. It is not being portrayed the way it really is, warts and all. But old views, dogmas and some secret yearnings for the recent past, where each opinion was put in a special category, where views that even slightly differed from those of officials were branded as dissent, where the immutability of the law was conveniently substituted by "political expediency" still persist and do not recognize their bankruptcy.

Before 1962, Kirov had two Russian Orthodox Church communities, two churches -- St Fedor and St Serafim. In 1962, in line with the then official policy that we should enter communism (which was believed to be close at hand) without religious people, or at least with a minimal quantity of such, St Fedor Church was closed and its parish disbanded. Because the city authorities had rebuilding plans for the riverside, the church on the Vyatka bank was torn down. The plans called for erecting in its place a monument celebrating the city's 600th anniversary. But the intriguing plan has so far given us only an ugly concrete slab buried under which is a capsule with a message to future generations.

An irreverent thought came to me when I faced the slab. For some unaccountable reason I thought that our wiser descendants would feel uneasy because of our desire to project a better image of ourselves that that which exists. I though it would have been much more fair and moral to leave a two-word message buried in the high bank -- "Forgive us!" Because we have failed to preserve here, on the bank of the Vyatka, either St Fedor Church or the strikingly beautiful 17th-century cathedral. Neither have we preserved the wonderful church built in the 19th century according to the design of the talented and very unhappy Aleksandr Vitberg, about whom Alexander Herzen wrote in his "My Past and Thoughts." Both were exiled to Vyatka. Many other wonderful creations of Russian architecture have also been allowed to vanish. Those who will live after us would not thank us for our messages, but for our sincere and hard efforts to preserve the historical and architectural monuments from ruin, the lakes and rivers from pollution, the forests from wasteful destruction. They will thank us for new buildings and cities worthy of man which, one would like to believe, will grow in number. Those people will mostly thank us for building a morally healthy society -- something we are trying to do at the moment.

The faithful have been going to the city's only St Serafim Church for twenty-five years, ever since St Fedor Church vanished overnight from the face of the earth. Almost ever since, they have been trying to get back what they had been denied -- the second religious community. While their requests in the past bore the stamp of resignation and were cut short by the brief "no" from the City Executive Committee, the situation is entirely different today. A formal application along with the list of founders of the religious community were sent on February 15 to the district, city and region executive councils. On July 15, the faithful of the city of Kirov sent to the Procurator General of the USSR a cable of complaint -- the 42nd such complaint addressed to Moscow.

Do the city and region authorities like this persistence? Did they, for example, like the letter sent in to MN and signed by two thousand persons? The appeal to the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, the President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, the Chairman of the Council for Religious Affairs of the USSR Council of Ministers? They plainly hate it! "You are a burden on the Soviet postal services," A. Shalaginov, a commissioner of the Council for Religious Affairs for the Kirov Region, reproached the faithful.

I'm all too aware of the commissioner's compassion with the Soviet postal services which are obliged to carry to Moscow what he considers ideologically backward and harmful rubbish! I'm only too well aware of his nostalgia for the times when official bans were the only way to deal with many burning social issues, when public opinion was mere scenery in a theatre with few actors, and when the regional elite could on occasion place themselves well above the law.

Time is the main motive force of the Kirov story. It is thanks to the new quality of times that the faithful of the old Russian city, honest working people, have become aware that they are honest citizens, a feeling that local officials thought was so odd. Why on earth shouldn't Ivan Martynov, a war veteran who worked 36 years as a fitter at the Mayak factory, fight for his rights guaranteed by the Constitution? And Gennadiy 42 working for the Lepse factory? And foreman Viktor Shchelchkov? And Anastasiya Nesterenko, an old-age pensioner who only recently was a senior engineer at a factory in Kirov? Full-fledged citizens of this country, they feel hurt when someone tries to hoodwink them, to intimidate, to drive them into a blind alley. In former times they would have kept silent, but they speak up today. Said Nesterenko with emotion: "Just think, we are advanced in years, have worked in production for 40 years or so, we have decorations, think about us! Don't we have the right to go to church?!"

Kirov has more than 400,000 residents. It has, as I've said, one church. (To compare: Moscow has 44 Russian Orthodox churches, Kostroma with a population of nearly 300,000 has six.) The religious people of Kirov and the city officials are locked in a heated argument. Believers are unanimous that, especially in winter, on holidays and at weekends, the church is filled to capacity. "You can't raise your hand to make the sign of the cross," complained Yekaterina Noskova, a seamstress who worked 30 years. Valentina Charushina, Secretary of the Kirov City Executive Committee, painted a different picture: "During religious festivals there are bigger crowds than on ordinary days. I went there on the most crowded day, I cannot remember now which holiday it was, but I cannot say the place was packed tight. I, for example, had no difficulty entering or leaving."

So, what was felt to us? Obviously, to go and visit the church. It was the holiday of the Appearance of the Icon of the Most Holy Mother of God in the City of Kazan. Although the holiday is not all that popular with the local people, the church was packed on the weekday morning and it was not so simple for us "entering or leaving". My personal impressions might be wrong and biased, but one thing is certain, the modest St. Serafim Church sells more tapers and wafers than the huge Yelokhov in Moscow, the Patriarch Cathedral and their takings are nearly equal, despite the fact that religious ceremonies cost much more in Moscow than in the regional centre.

What further arguments are needed? Perhaps I should mention that, unfortunately, there are occasions when people inside the church faint from the stuffy air or when a bone or two get broken and the people are rushed to hospital in an ambulance. On some days the dead are left to lie in the funeral carriages for hours, waiting in their last earthly queue for the burial rites. But these things can only be heard and understood by those whose morals are still alive and not curbed by a misinterpreted sense of duty. Meanwhile, you'd be wasting your time if you tried to look for unbiased attitudes to the needs of believers, to their vital and legitimate requests in what Valentina Charushina does. [paragraph continues]

If as Secretary of the City Executive Committee she can be adamant in such matters as, I beg your pardon, building a toilet necessarily across the street from the entrance to St. Serafim Church, if she resisted the ringing of the church bells with all her might, proclaiming it a "merchant class hangover", if she intentionally obscures the matter of having the second religious community registered, then you cannot help seeing in all that an offence against religious feelings, which Lenin warned us about in fighting against religious prejudice. Using Lenin's words V. Charushina has caused "a lot of harm" to the moral prestige of Soviet government.

The most profound idea of the perestroyka process, if you wish, is that we would only be able to take the country's economy out of its precrisis condition when observance of laws and unconditional observance of human rights, including the right to freedom of conscience, become an absolute norm of our life. This idea, to my mind, is only gaining strength in Kirov. It is only too obvious why the regional officials show so much care in economic matters, and it is precisely for this reason that one cannot see why on earth their views have little changed on the most important problem of maintaining well-defined and legitimate, dignified relations between the church and the state.

It is the job of the Council for Religious Affairs and its commissioners in the localities to see to it that these relations are in line with the Constitution. A commissioner's job is to put right all the infractions of law by either the local officials or the local church. But the greatest trouble with A. Shalaginov is that for nine years he has been doing a job he is unsuited for and, as happens in such cases, he bungles it. He does not, to put it mildly, accept the church with all his heart; he thinks that religious people are very unpleasant, and priests - repulsive. He, for instance, is supposed to meet the justified requests made over many years by religious people in the town of Vyatskiye Polyany about having their religious community registered. Instead he opposes them. He is duty-bound to make L. Pechatkina, Secretary of the City Executive Committee of the town of Malmyzh who is wantonly harassing both the church-goers and their priests Aleksey Sukhikh, obey law and order. Instead, he seems to watch this harassment with glee. He was supposed to at least try and explain to the executive committees in Kirov and the region that the grounds on which they refuse the registration of a second religious community in Kirov hold no water from the legal point. Instead, he resolutely supports the local officials.

Knowing the frame of mind of the decision makers, it is easy to guess what decision they have taken: "Registration of a new community of the Russian Orthodox Church is to be considered inexpedient..." Such is the decision of the City Executive Committee and it is echoed by the reply of the Regional Executive Committee.

I will not dwell on the sad details of the events that followed: the attempts by the founding members to get a copy of the City Executive Committee's decision, their shuttling between various offices, their trip to Moscow to seek justice, their letters and telegrams which, according to A. Shalaginov, "are a burden on the Soviet postal services", the indifferent reply from the Deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet - a young worker at the Krashyy Instrumentalshchik factory Tatyana Ulyantseva. Here I should mention the procurator of the city of Kirov, Pavel Ozhegin, who signed a piece of paper saying: "The decision made by the City Executive Committee does not contradict the existing legislation...." The decision is illegal in all respects while the pillar of law, a procurator, maintains that it does not! The city procurator somehow made me think of the archivist in one of Saltykov-Shchedrin's books. On reading a memo he said: "Though I can't understand it, I can reply to it." What was it that really guided Ozhegin in compiling his reply? The law? Hardly. [paragraph continues]

It was the opinion of the City Party Committee and that of the City Executive Committee, his own opinion, his profound conviction which he thus expressed word for word: "Why should we give the churchmen on occasion for spreading their ideas? I think it inexpedient to have another church in the city."

The law, human rights, duty - all can be sacrificed to the opinion of officials, all can be distorted according to the local style, all can be bent in an act of willing submission. But what do they want to achieve in Kirov by rejecting off-hand the legitimate requests of believers? What is the aim of the local officials advancing, what they think, a devastating argument: "Where are they going to pray? The Cathedral of the Assumption is going to be turned into a museum!"

The Cathedral of the Assumption of the Trifonov Monastery houses the regional archives from prewar times. Its keeper, Tamara Korchevskaya, unlocked the padlock and we went in. A sad sight greeted us. Looking up I could see patches of blue sky, the murals of Palekh masters have all but crumbled, and here and there the gold of the nimbuses gleamed. "I always wear a helmet to guard against falling bricks," said the lady and sighed: "It's a pity. The place will be totally ruined in ten or fifteen years."

According to plans, the museum in the Trifonov Monastery was to open back in 1970. Today, they speak of 1990, but given the real resources of the city's restoration workshops the real date for ending the restoration is lost in the haze of time. Another architectural monument, the Transfiguration Monastery, is an even sadder sight. The Troitsko-Makaryevskaya Church is barely big enough to house a tiny library and a community centre where they hold dancing evenings several times a year. All that, in the language of the fathers of the city and the region, is proudly called "an institution of culture", though "an institution of anti-culture" would be a more apt description. The crumbling St. Konstantin Church houses a garage workshop for the city ambulance service. I'm mentioning this because the officials of the city and the region should be ashamed of making it appear that they are lavishing loving care on the surviving architectural landmarks of Kirov. Given this situation, all talk about turning the place into a museum or that it would be just great to install an organ inside the cathedral, is groping for lame excuses, trying to get away from the real issue - to prevent the cathedral being given over to the church, at all costs.

The Trifonov Monastery can well have both a museum and a church (such arrangements exist in the Troitse-Sergiyeva Lavra and in the town of Slobodskoy in the Kirov Region). Given the right attitude, one can also find ther legitimate variants. But the point is that in this case the local officials are not interested in the least in legal provisions. Lenin's norms of relations between the state and the church reflected in our laws expressly prohibit, for example, all official registration of citizens as regards their attitude to religion. In the mean time, Yu. Karacharov said in his address at the regional meeting of Party activists (published in the KIROVSKAYA PRAVDA): "There should be general registration of military service draftees from religious families..." But Lenin wrote: "No official should have the right even to ask anyone about his religion: that is a matter for each person's conscience and no one has any right to interfere." Meanwhile, another speech also published in the regional newspaper contains a persistent call for registering the precise addresses of believers and for visiting their homes to give them a talk.

I reminded Yu. Karacharov: "The government considers it possible to hand over the Danilov Monastery to the Russian Orthodox Church." "Why, it's Moscow!" he objected and his biting remark contained this message: "You in Moscow can do exactly what you please, as for us here in Kirov, we'll stick to our guns once we have said 'no'."

UKRAINIAN CATHOLICS SEEK 'LEGALIZATION'

AU191310 Rome ANSA in English 1227 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] (ANSA) Rome, August 1 -- Two underground Catholic bishops in the Ukraine came out of hiding, along with 23 priests, numerous monks and [words indistinct] persons signed an appeal to the pope, with a copy for Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev, calling for all possible support to achieve "the legitimate legalization" of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the Soviet Union.

The text of the message, in Russian and Italian, was made public today by the Ukrainian Catholic community in Rome. The appeal was signed first by Ukrainian Bishops Paulo Vasylik and Ivan Semedi, whose names up to now were unknown as they consecrated secretly. The appeal, which was brought to Moscow some days ago by a Ukrainian delegation, makes specific reference to the new openness of the Gorbachev regime. The signees said that the current atmosphere in the USSR was more favorable than before to recognition of the Ukrainian Church, which was officially dissolved by Stalin in 1946.

The text of the appeal, signed with the date August 4 and delivered early this month to the Kremlin by Josyf Terelja, the leader of Ukrainian Catholic dissidents recently pardoned by Gorbachev and released from a Siberian work camp, was brought to the West August 12 and delivered two days ago to the [words indistinct] summer resistance outside Rome, according to Ukrainian Catholics here.

The appeal, entitled "Zajava" (statement), is formally addressed to the pope and says the [words indistinct] bishops, priests, monks, and followers of the Catholic Church in the Ukraine consider the present moment in the USSR and the occasion of the jubilee marking the conversion of the Ukraine 1,000 years ago, as propitious for the "legitimate legalization" of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the Soviet Union.

The message said that at the same time that Catholics in the Ukraine appealed to the pope they also looked to the Soviet Government to allow them to emerge from their clandestine position.

AZERBAIJAN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS DISCUSSES REFORM

NC210914 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1600 GMT 17 Aug 87

[Text] The Azerbaijan SSR Council of Ministers has met to discuss efforts by the Council of Ministers, ministries, chief administrations, and local Soviet executive committees to realize the decisions adopted by the June 1987 CPSU Central Committee Plenum, including the decision adopted by the USSR Council of Ministers on (?17 July) and the decisions adopted by the July 1987 Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Plenum. Comrade Gasan Seidov, member of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Bureau and chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Council of Ministers Presidium, read a report.

The meeting noted that successfully realizing the revolutionary decisions adopted by the June CPSU Central Committee Plenum is the priority task for all state entities. The consistent implementation of these decisions must significantly affect all areas of economic work in the republic and contribute to the dynamic development of the economic work in the republic and contribute to the dynamic development of the economy. Realization of these decisions must raise the economy to a new level.

The meeting called on the State Planning Committee, the State Committee for the Agro-Industrial Complex, the ministries, the chief administrations, the Nakhichevan ASSR Council of Ministers, the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast Soviet Executive Committee, and the rayon and city soviet executive committees to draw up and implement a series of measures to fulfill the recommendations made by the June 1987 CPSU Central Committee Plenum aimed at completely restructuring management of the economic domain.

The meeting also discussed the question of the environment in the republic and efforts to protect it. The participants approved a series of measures to protect the environment and use productively the natural resources of the republic.

SOVIET SOLDIERS SELLING ARMS IN TURKMENISTAN

OW211455 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1115 GMT 21 Aug 87

[Vladimir Tsvetov commentary from "The World Today" program]

[Excerpts] [Tsvetov] You probably know from television and radio reports about the bloody crime in the English city of Hungerford. Michael Ryan, a 37-year-old local resident, opened fire with a submachine gun and killed 14 and wounded 16 people. [passage detailing the shooting spree omitted] The press drew attention to the disturbing fact that British citizens possess 11 million pieces of firearms. [passage omitted]

As I have told you about all this, I have wondered: How many privately owned arms are there in our country? Judging by the recent IZVESTIYA asrticle, there are quite a few guns hidden in houses. As you remember, IZVESTIYA reported the extremely outrageous and disturbing incidents of arms trading in a military unit in Turkmenistan. In our "World Today" program we sometimes speak ironically about the morale of U.S. soldiers who sell arms to Japanese gangsters and Italian and West German terrorists, but something similar is happening right here in our own backyard. Michael Ryan from the English city of Hungerford committed 14 murders, obviously in a state of insanity. Could not a madman like Ryan buy a submachine gun in that army unit in Turkenistan that was involved in trading arms?

LEADERS SIGN ACTOR MIRONOV'S OBITUARY

PM231653 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 19 Aug 87 Second Edition p 6

[Obituary of Andrey Aleksandrovich Mironov]

[Experts] RSFSR People's Artiste Andrey Aleksandrovich Mironov, well-known theater and movie artiste and artiste of the Moscow Academy Theater of Satire, has died suddenly at the height of his creative powers in his 47th year. [passage omitted]

V.I. Vorotnikov, A.N. Yakovlev, P.N. Demichev, B.N. Yeltsin, Yu.P. Voronov, Yu.A. Sklyarov, A.N. Aksenov, V.G. Zakharov, A.I. Kamshalov, V.I. Mironenko, Ye.M. Chekharin, O A. Aroseva, A.A. Belyayev, I.B. Bugayev, V.K. Vasilyev, A.G. German, M.A. Gribanov, A.A. Goncharov, O.N. Yefremov, Ye.V. Zaytsev, M.A. Zakharov, Yu.S. Karabasov, E.G. Klimov, K.Yu. Lavrov, A.P. Levinskiy, Ye.S. Matveyev, Yu.S. Melentyev, G.P. Menglet, S.V. Mikhalkov, I.A. Naumenko, V.N. Pluchek, B.V. Runge, E.A. Ryazanov, V.T. Saykin, Ye. R. Simonov, A.I. Stepanova, G.A. Tovstonogov, M.A. Ulyanov, M.I. Tsarev.

PROKHOROV COMMENTS ON NATIONAL HOUSING POLICY

LD211720 Moscow TASS in English 1623 GMT 21 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 21 TASS -- TASS analyst Boris Prokhorov writes:

The Soviet state housing plan was overfulfilled by 20 per cent in January-July of this year. Reporting this, statisticians pointed out that such impressive overfulfilment was registered for the first time. It will be remembered that the 1987 plan provides for building houses for 2.1 million flats.

Housing construction in the USSR has been going at a high rate and rhythmically (some two million flats a year) for 30 years. Actually all Soviet families have improved their housing conditions to some extent or other. It goes without saying that the USSR has no homeless. Incidentally, the U.N. declared 1987 the international year of shelter for the homeless.

The problem of homeless people in the world is great and burning. According to the U.N., 100 million people on earth are shelterles, including citizens in industrialized, "rich" countries. There are three million homeless in the USA and over one million in Italy, 250,000 -- in Britain, 100,000 -- in France and [words indistinct] year. The conclusion is self-evident: The problem of providing housing is more social than economic. The Soviet experience proves this.

The state conducts mass housing construction from its budget. In the past five-year plan period (1981-1985) over 100,000 million roubles was spent for this purpose. Flats in state-owned houses are distributed free among population. The rent is just symbolic: some three per cent of the average family budget. This is the way of solving the problem.

Of course it can be radically resolved only in a country with planned, socialist economy where resources are spent in the interests of society as a whole and not individuals.

But cooperative and individual housing construction is also allowed in our country. The state builds some three-quarters of all housing. The rest are cooperative and privately-owned houses. The state extends cooperative and individual builders credits at 0.5 per cent per annum.

Though there are no homeless in the country, the housing problem still exists. It is planned to resolve it only by the year 2000 when every Soviet family will have a well-appointed flat or a home (at present there are only 85 per cent of such families in cities and 90 per cent in the country side).

SOVIET WORLD MARKET COMPETITIVENESS VIEWED

PM181401 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Aug 87 Morning Edition p 2

[M. Berger "Economic Review": "Difficult Path Toward Recognition"]

[Text] It is no secret that in recent years we have been experiencing considerable difficulties in selling our goods on the world market. To put it figuratively, we are increasingly lagging behind ourselves. Having reached an export peak of R74.4 billion in 1984, we began to be perceptibly forced back, "yielding" several billion a year. Moreover, exports last year -- while showing a "physical" increase of just over 9 percent -- brought in R4.4 billion less earnings than in 1985. It is not hard to surmise that this means that the products we export are being valued more and more cheaply on the world market.

The main trouble is the export structure. We are "eating up" our fuel and raw material resources, which make up almost half of all our foreign trade.

The reduction in exports is almost entirely owing to the developed capitalist countries. They have decreased by almost one-third here. Indeed, market conditions have changed and we must learn to trade in such a way as to minimize this kind of loss if possible. But, of course, by no means does everything depend on the level of trade. Some things obviously can be attributed to political motives too. But we can hardly ascribe almost 5.5 billion "arrears" to this. If indeed politics are involved here, it is primarily the technical policy being pursued by our industrial ministries. Many of them are oriented toward the world market mostly on paper, though all of them are oriented toward the receipt of currency. In the fourth quarter of last year alone, the State Committee for Standards rejected 290 draft state All-Union Standards and 1,290 technical specifications for machine-building and instrument-making products by virtue of their nonconformity with the world standard.

We are not only planning a lack of competitiveness, but are even losing what already had been gained in the competitive struggle. Thus, we are losing customers for our tractors in Belgium, our motorbikes in Britain, our excavators in France, and our power, welding, and rolling equipment in Japan.

So what is happening? Why do our products -- those same machine-building products -- falter on the world market? After all, according to recently published data of the Central Statistical Administration, the number of products conforming to world technical standards in the overall production of the most important types of machine-building products totaled more than 40 percent.

But, in order to sell products for currency, it is not enough to "conform." The product must have a certificate -- an internationally recognized document guaranteeing the quality. And to obtain this, the product must undergo certification -- appropriate tests (conforming to international standards again). In recent years, national systems of certification have been created in virtually all the industrially developed countries and hundreds of bilateral and multilateral agreements have been concluded on their reciprocal recognition.

A special decision on this question was adopted in our country 3 years ago. But, as the annual session of the Soviet Committee on Participation in International Standardization noted recently, the matter is still in the embryonic stage. [paragraph continues]

Because of this, we have to hold tests and obtain certificates from foreign firms. This gratification is not cheap. For instance, annual expenditure on the certification of "Norma" car safety belts amounts to almost 100,000 foreign currency rubles. The test on one "Zhibuli" export model in France costs more than 200,000 foreign currency rubles; it lasted a whole year. During this time, it is possible to remain without customers.

But, in general, the struggle for recognition on the foreign market starts with the broad application of international standards (and not with a decision on conformity to independently chosen foreign analogues), and with direct and active participation in international organizations on standardization. There are three such organizations: the International Standardization Organization, the International Electrotechnical Commission (MEK), and the European Organization for Quality Control.

Three years ago, A. Nesterov, general director of the Novograd "Kompleks" Science and Production Association, asked the chairman of the State Committee for Standards to permit him by way of exception to use the MEK standards instead of the State All-Union Standards. Obviously, even nonspecialists will understand what a "burden" the Novograd workers were taking on of their own free will -- as a rule international standards are considerably tougher than our own. Special permission was required because the standards of international organizations have no status in our own state system of standards and consequently references to them are invalid for all controlling organs, including plant technical control departments.

This, incidentally, is one of the reasons for the more than cool attitude of many ministries toward international standards. The introduction of international standards and the creation of certification centers cost a lost of money. Does it make sense to spend money on that, some economic managers argue, if there may or may not be exports, but the domestic consumer does not have the right to recognize anything apart from Soviet State All-Union Standards? In brief, it is a closed circle.

So, A. Nesterov, who on his own initiative and at his own risk broke this circle, today trades with the FRG, Italy, and France. That is what it means to assimilate international standards.

Of course, assimilation by just one person, I repeat, is not enough. But access to the world market is impossible in principle outside these standards, and that is already completely inadmissible: No state, the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum noted, can consider itself to be isolated economically from others.

International standards are merely a guideline, minimum requirements made by the foreign market. If we are to talk seriously about gaining positions on the world market, the path toward achieving this lies via trade standards which are significantly superior to international standards and around which a genuine competitive struggle develops. Unfortunately, we do not have such trade standards at all, although we cannot say that there are not enterprises capable of entering the market with their own trade standard. In the opinion of the State Committee for Standards, already today these might include the Ivanovo Machine-Tool Building Association, the "Kriogenmash" Science and Production Association, the "Elektronika" Association, the "Atlant" Association, and a number of others.

It is, of course, possible to evade international standards by referring to objective difficulties and to the fact that these standards are not compulsory in our country. It is possible to pretend they do not exist at all. [paragraph continues]

But how then are we to change the export structure? How are we to implement the currency self-capitalization of sectors, to which a majority of industrial ministries have transferred this year? How are we to satisfy enterprises' currency requirements, after all currency is now acquired not from the treasury, but on the world market with one's own goods? There is only one answer -- we must actively apply international standards, just for a start.

ECONOMIST ARGUES CASE AGAINST PRICE FIXING

PM201235 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 14 Aug 87 p 2

[Candidate of Technical Sciences B. Melik-Shakhnazarov article under the rubric "Readers Continue Conversation": "So Who Dictates Prices?" -- first two paragraphs are editorial introduction]

[Excerpts] There have been around 2,200 responses to the KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA articles devoted to price formation ("Who Dictates Prices" of 2 June, and "The Economy Dictates Prices" of 17 June this year). The overwhelming majority of readers ardently support the newspaper's desire to hold a discussion on one of the most topical questions of our economy, whose resolution will largely determine the pace of restructuring. "Taking account of the political and social importance of price formation reform, it must be a subject for the broadest discussion in the country," stated the Basic Provisions for the Radical Restructuring of Economic Management adopted by the CPSU Central Committee June (1987) Plenum.

Continuing this discussion on prices, we are today publishing extracts from readers' letters and an article by an expert. [passage omitted comprising three readers' letters]

Yerevan -- How can the economy support a skillful leader, strike against an over-zealous administrator, tame an impulsive manager, or punish a bad director? Only through prices. Not formal prices, but consumer prices -- real prices. Prices must be "earned." The authors of the article "The Economy Dictates Prices," however, believe that everything supposedly depends on improving labor productivity: Just achieve real success in this area, and prices will be reduced. Does this mean that everything depends on workers, peasants, and engineers? Is that so?

All economists realize that objective prices are a specific rather than a generalized category. There are no general prices for ballpoints, samovars, or shirts. There are prices for specific ballpoints or shirts, since each one is produced by specific people, in a specific material and quantity, and in a specific place. As long as the State Committee on Prices [Goskomtsen] has one price for a standardized ballpoint, one should not expect either good or cheap pens, because the Goskomtsen proceeds in its practice on the basis of the cast-iron principle of dogmatism and voluntarism, which implies subordination to a "higher authority" and a complete underassessment of the dialectics of development. If capitalist gentlemen adopted the Goskomtsen's game rules they would go down the tube the very same day. Yet prices keep stubbornly climbing, since in reality they are set not by the State Committee's instructions but by life.

Goskomtsen representatives naively believe that increases in purchase prices will result in increased agricultural production. Why? If an enterprise is profitable, its profits will increase sharply with a rise in purchase prices. But if this profit is stringently allocated to various areas (wages funds, equipment purchasing funds, bonus funds, capital investment, science funds, and so on) the enterprise does not need these rubles. It cannot spend the money since there are no stocks, construction materials, or, as the writers of the article claim, foodstuffs to spend it on!

Profitable enterprises are given an objective incentive to reduce their production volume! While unprofitable enterprises become profitable as purchase prices increase! Well well! There's a fine trick for you. It turns out that an increase in purchase prices favors the weak while being not so advantageous for the state, since it reduces the activeness of strong and profitable enterprises. I cannot understand why, as A. Vikhlyayev assures us, the average prime cost of beef is R5.42! After all, our private operators sell it more cheaply -- for R4. Perhaps this is the price of meat on shockingly organized farms? As long as rubles have a different "coloring" and as long as they come in real or paper varieties -- the way that the Goskomtsen and Ministry of Finance arrange matters -- do not expect any special performance from production, since its entire freedom of business initiative is absolutely illusory.

No one is saying that price regulation is unnecessary. It is, but in mainly relative categories, that is, taxes and percentage correlations, with an intensification or relaxation of inverse relationships and other privileges. But prices can only be directly established in exceptional circumstances. Prices must "affect," punish, or encourage the competence of the policy of an enterprise, sector, or even country through objective assessments of the quality and quantity of specific labor.

Let the Goskomtsen explain the following. Our workers produce just over 60 percent of output in comparison with workers' labor productivity in the developed capitalist countries, and enterprises with the same capacity produce just 10-20 percent. Where has the 40-50 percent of the result of work gone? How does the Goskomtsen explain the fact that all large firms have the highest profits and labor productivity, yet our country -- the largest "firm" in the world -- does not enjoy such advantages? What is going on? Why are the laws which say that any later-developing system is better organized observable in both biology and society, but as soon as it is a question of socialism, this "law" breaks down? Survival rates are approximately 0.04 percent for salmon, 1 percent for amphibians, 10 percent for birds, 30-50 percent for mammals, and over 95 percent for people, since they have an inherently more sophisticated management hierarchy. The same is true of society: From the original social structure to slave-ownership and later feudal and bourgeois society the laws of development have continuously enhanced society and improved its labor productivity. Suddenly at the transition to socialism things get confused. I am sure than an enormous amount of the blame for low labor productivity lies precisely with the Goskomtsen -- but not with it alone, of course, and this is very strange: There are no secrets in administration; it is possible to learn to administer any country, but the objective laws of society's development cannot be broken. That is precisely why the laws discovered by K. Marx are working against us.

The Goskomtsen tries to prove that the high prices for a number of goods are an enforced measure against speculation. But people pay high prices for goods in short supply not because they like to but because they hope that this additional payment will help to expand the production of goods in short supply and eliminate shortages. Yet we are intimidated with the concept of "persisting shortages"... We must eschew this concept. We should not plan the actual process of eliminating shortages, since they are very diverse, but we allow this process to operate objectively, outlining only the relative indicators of deductions for expanding production and paying those who are specifically resolving this task.

Yet at the moment, through the fault of planning organs and the Goskomtsen, people are spending billions every year on eliminating shortages -- and this money goes into the pockets of enterprising people. [paragraph continues]

Think about it: Each year tourists are allocated 10-12 million travel passes, for which they pay the state around R1.5-2 billion, part of which may go on expanding the leisure sphere. But what do the remaining 100-150 million of our compatriots do? They also relax. Where? With private operators. Even if half of them spend R200-300 as unofficial vacationers, this amounts to R15-20 billion in uncontrolled spending every year. But what does the hotel, catering, repair, and dacha construction industry get out of it!... Reserves are being depleted. Yet they do not want to take the money on offer. It all comes down to prices. Prices must produce returns for "our people and yours." At the moment they are only taking. And we do not know for what purpose.

JANUARY-JULY STOCKRAISING FIGURES REPORTED

PM191403 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 34, Aug 87 (Signed to Press 13 Aug 87) p 10

[Unattributed "Statistical Summary": "Stockraising on Kolkhozes and Sovkhozes"]

[Text] The editorial office has received USSR State Committee for Statistics figures for the state of stockraising on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in January-July 1987.

Despite the cold and late spring, most farms in the country prevented any decline in livestock productivity, successfully transferred their livestock to summer conditions, and are now utilizing all the favorable opportunities to boost stock unit output.

I. Production of Livestock Products [subhead]

The country's kolkhozes and sovkhozes produced the following results for the production of livestock products in January-July this year:

Indicators	Jan-Jul 1987	Jan-Jul 1987 as percentage of Jan-Jul 1986
Meat production (sale of livestock and poultry for slaughter, live weight), thousand tonnes	11,443	106
of which:		
cattle	6,628	108
pigs	2,951	106
sheep and goats	312	89
poultry	1,552	104
Gross milk yield thousand tonnes	50,219	102
Average milk yield per cow, kg	1,663	102
Hen eggs, millions	35,152	103
Average egg yield of laying hens, units	133	100

Kolkhoz and sovkhoz meat production increased by 696,000 tonnes in comparison with the same period last year. Meat production increased on farms in all union republics.

The greatest increase in meat production in the RSFSR was achieved by farms in Murmansk, Ryazan, Volgograd, Orenburg, and Magadan Oblasts, the Udmurt and North Osetian ASSR's, and Stavropol, Altay, and Maritime Krays. Meat production declined somewhat on farms in Ivanovo, Astrakhan, Rostov, and Sverdlovsk Oblasts and in the Chechen-Ingush, Kalmyk, and Tuva ASSR's.

The gross milk yield in January-July 1987 was 982,000 tonnes more than in January-July last year. An increase in milk production was secured by stock unit workers in most union republics except the Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Moldavia, Tajikistan, and Armenia.

The greatest increase in milk production in the RSFSR was achieved by farms in Arkhangelsk, Ryazan, Tula, Kirov, Lipetsk, Kemerovo, Tomsk, and Chita Oblasts, the Tatar and Udmurt ASSR's, and Khabarovsk and Maritime Krays. Milk production declined

on farms in Pskov, Kursk, Volgograd, Rostov, Kurgan, and Tyumen Oblasts and the North Osetian and Chechen-Inguish ASSR's.

Egg production on kolkhozes and sovkhozes in January-July 1987 increased by 1,051 million compared with the same period last year.

II. Purchases of Livestock on All Categories of Farms [subhead]

Types of Product Purchased	Purchased During Jan-Jul 1987	Jan-Jul 1987 as Percentage of Jan-Jul 1986
Livestock and poultry (live weight), thousand tonnes	11,965	110 [see note]
Milk, thousand tonnes	45,164	103
Eggs, millions	33,393	103

[Note: The growth rate was 104 percent when purchases by consumer cooperative organizations are excluded]

The volume of livestock and poultry sales to the state in the country in January-July 1987 increased by 1,043,000 tonnes in comparison wuth the same period last year. Livestock and poultry purchases increased considerably on farms in Orenburg, Volgograd, Kuybyshev, and Voronezh Oblasts, Altay Kray, Saratov Oblast, the Bashkir ASSR, Stavropol Kray, and Kostroma, Bryansk, Ryazan, and other oblasts.

Purchases of milk and dairy products increased by 1.5 million tonnes during January-July 1987. Farms in all union republics except Tajikistan increased milk sales to the state. The greatest increase in milk sales was achieved by farms in Khabarovsk Kray, Kirov Oblast, Maritime Kray, and Kemerovov, Tula, Ryazan, Arkhangelsk, Chita, Tomsk, and other oblasts.

Egg sales to the state in January-July 1987 increased by 870 million in comparison with the same period last year.

III. Production and Purchases of Livestock Products by Union Republic [subhead]

Union republic	Jan-Jul 1987 as Percentage of Jan-Jul 1986					
	Production			Purchases		
	Meat	Milk	Eggs	Livestock and Poultry	Milk	Eggs
USSR	106	102	103	110	103	103
RSFSR	108	103	103	111	104	103
of which the Non-Chernozem Zone	106	104	103	108	105	103
Ukrainian SSR	104	99	101	109	100.4	99

Belorussian SSR	110	106	103	111	111	103
Uzbek SSR	104	108	110	109	107	110
Kazakh SSR	110	103	103	111	104	104
Georgian SSR	103	101	99.9	102	102	101
Azerbaijan SSR	107	99.3	108	105	102	106
Lithuanian SSR	103	101	107	103	104	109
Moldavian SSR	101	99.3	104	101	103	106
Latvian SSR	102	102	99.97	104	104	102
Kirghiz SSR	112	105	108	119	104	109
Tajik SSR	105	99.3	109	104	99	109
Armenian SSR	104	99.6	108	102	100.1	110
Turkmen SSR	104	103	109	106	103	107
Estonian SSR	100.6	104	98	102	107	102

IV. Livestock Numbers [subhead]

As of 1 August 1987 there were 98 million head of cattle on kolkhozes and sovkhozes, 728,000 head less than in the corresponding period last year. There were 29 million cows, and the pig population on kolkhozes and sovkhozes reached 60.1 million. Sheep and goats numbered 138.4 million. The number of poultry reached 800.8 million, an increase of 2.9 million.

THREE OBLASTS FULFILL GRAIN PROCUREMENT PLAN

PM211019 [Editorial Report] Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 20 August 1987 front-pages three 150-word reports on current harvesting performance under the heading "Into the State Granaries."

A TASS dispatch entitled "Belgorod's Success" notes that the "duty-tour method employed in the grain harvest by collectives working under contract and on economic accountability [khozraschetnyy] principles has secured an important labor feat for farmers in Belgorod Oblast," who have "fulfilled the annual plan for grain sales to the state." It reports that "more than 750,000 tonnes of grain have been dispatched to the grain elevators and grain reception centers. The extensive use of intensive grain cultivation technology has made it possible to harvest more than 28 quintals of grain per hectare and sell more than 350,000 tonnes of valuable wheat and graded seed to the state."

A.G. Kolenchuk dispatch entitled "Among the First" notes that "farmers in Lipetsk Oblast have fulfilled the grain procurement plan." He reports that "more than 600,000 tonnes of grain have been poured into the state granaries. Farms have also met the targets for the sale of top quality winter wheat and peas."

A dispatch by N. Tereshko entitled "Grain From Intensively Farmed Fields" says that "farmers in Rovno Oblast have successfully fulfilled the plan for grain sales to the state." He reports that "more than 170,000 tonnes of grain have been sent to the reception points. This," he observes, "is almost 20,000 tonnes more than planned."

'MIR' MANNED MISSION TO CONTINUE TO YEAR'S END

LD211128 Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 21 Aug 87

[Text] The mission of the Soviet consmonauts, Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Aleksandrov, on the Mir orbital complex will continue until the end of the year. Then they will be replaced by another crew. This has been announced by the state commission for testing manned space complexes in flight.

Yuriy Romanenko has been working on the Mir complex for more than a half a year and Aleksandr Aleksandrov arrived there a month ago.

Experiments Proceed

LD211339 Moscow TASS in English 1035 GMT 21 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 21 TASS -- Soviet cosmonauts Yuriy Romenenko and Aleksandr Aleksandrov are continuing their orbital flight.

The crew is devoting a considerable part of its working time to geophysical studies designed to collect information on the natural resouces of our planet and to the study of processes taking place in the atmosphere and near-terrestrial space.

The cosmonauts have conducted yet another smelting in the installation "Korund" and performed a number of technical experiments.

A new series of photographs of the world's land and ocean surface is planned for today and the crew will undergo a medical checkup.

Astrophysical experiments involving the use of the international orbital observatory "Rentgen" are continuing. In the coming days its telescopes will be used in carrying out measurements necessary for drawing up roentgen maps of separate sections of the stellar sky.

The flight of the Mir manned complex is proceeding normally.

Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Aleksandrov are feeling well.

TROOP EXERCISES HELD IN UKRAINE SSR

LD191705 Moscow TASS in English 1632 GMT 19 Aug 87

[Text] Lvov August 19 TASS -- Exercises of troops of the Order of Red Banner Prikarpatskiy Military District continue on the territory of the Ukrainian S.S.R. in the region of the cities of Rava-Russkaya, Yavorov, Gorodok and Nesterov. In complicated conditions which maximally resemble combat ones, control organs, formations and units are improving on-the-march training, teamwork and cooperation, and the engineer operations in the regions.

In compliance with the relevant document of the Stockholm Conference observers from 24 countries participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe -- Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Great Britain, Hungary, the German Democratic Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Denmark, Spain, Italy, Canada, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, the United States, Turkey, Finland, France, Czechoslovakia, Switzerland, Sweden and Yugoslavia, arrived in the city of Lvov.

Officer Interviewed

LD200844 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0400 GMT 20 Aug 87

[Text] Our correspondent Anatoliy Ilchenko reports from the area of the troop exercises in the Red Banner Carpathian Military District.

[Ilchenko] This morning finds us with a motor rifle unit stationed on the forward defended localities of the oranges, which is the code name for one of the sides taking part in the exercises. The men of the gun detachments, tank crews and infantry sub-units are in an A-1 state of readiness. Intense self-discipline and seriousness in expectation of the coming battle are to be felt everywhere. No one yet knows precisely which battle situation will be ordered from the command post of the exercises, or when the order will come. But the point of exercises is precisely to test comprehensively the combat skill of the troops, their moral and political spirit, and capacity to resolve any task quickly and accurately in conditions as close as possible to those of combat. Here's a brief interview with Senior Lieutenant Primechenko, commander of a tank platoon:

[Primechenko] We shall act with total resoluteness. We have come to this exercise with high marks for combat and political training. Our personnel showed during the march and the process of the engineering preparation of the rayon their high moral and political qualities, a high degree of physical endurance, selflessness, and an understanding of the responsibility of the task we have been set. I believe we shall all be able to resolve the task in the way required of us by our command, and by our party and government.

[Ilchenko] Tell me, please. Probably every collective, including military ones, has its own leader and its own frontrankers?

[Primechenko] There are such leaders in our company too. They are Senior Lieutenant (?Pichulin), platoon commander, Sergeant (?Zakharov), tank commander, (?Efrey Turbitmuradov), a driver-mechanic. They all show high standards in combat and political training. The party requires of us at present that each member of our society should fulfill his work, his duty, on the spot and with the greatest amount of effort. These people can serve only as an example. They are leaders in all respects -- in their work, in battle and in combat study.

This year, the whole summer training period is being held under the slogan: A Worthy Meeting of the 70th Anniversary of the Great October. We have joined the all-Army competition, and we ourselves want to come through these exercises worthily, and to show our degree of skill and see with our own eyes what we have achieved during the summer study period.

[Ilchenko] So its a serious test for everyone?

[Primechenko] Yes, it's a very serious test. I think we will pass it with honors.

Exercises Conclude 22 August

LD221625 Moscow TASS in English 1619 GMT 22 Aug 87

[Text] Moscow August 22 TASS -- The exercise of troops ended on the territory of the Ukrainian Republic today. It was devoted to improving control over and cooperation between various arms and services.

According to the appraisal of the command of the exercise, it was instructive and showed a higher level of field training of troops.

Aims set for the war games were reached. Troops which participated in it are withdrawing to places of their permanent stationing.

The exercise was attended by observers from 24 states participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

SUCCESSFUL TEST OF AN-74 PLANE IN TURKMENISTAN

OW230041 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1900 GMT 21 Aug 87

[From the "90 Minutes" program]

[Text] The following report has been received from Ashkhabad. Trial flights of the AN-74 plane, famous for its load-carrying records, were completed in Ashkhabad. The plane passed the tests with flying colors, and although the plane is designed for arctic and antarctic operations, the operation in the conditions of high temperature is an important part of the test program. Extreme conditions, such as failure of one motor and landing with a damaged chassis, were created artificially during the flights. The power units and electronic equipment have passed the tests. Now the crew has flown to Kirgiziya to carry test flights in mountainous areas.